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MID KENT EDITION

Issue no 557

MP blames foreign policy for 'cocktail of extremism' in get tough call

By Joe Bill

joe.bill@archant.co.uk

AN MP has insisted British foreign policy and the failure to deport the likes of radical cleric Abu Qatada has created a "cocktail for extremism" which this week exploded in horrific scenes on the streets of Woolwich.

Canterbury MP Julian Brazier said while there was no justification for the brutal killing of serviceman Drummer Lee Rigby in a crime which stunned the country, the reasons were rooted in decisions taken in Westminster.

However, his views have been dismissed by fellow Conservative politicians.

In pointing the finger at the Tony Blair administration, Mr Brazier said: "It is indefensible what these thugs did. But I think there are two wider points.

"One is the way we handled Iraq; going to war without a plan to put it

right afterwards so a vast number of civilians got killed. And those images were flashed all over the world.

"On the other hand, we now have courts – for the first time ever in British history – which won't allow the home secretary to deport radical preachers like Abu Hamza; it took us seven years to get rid of him. And Abu Qatada is still here.

"This means we have an absolute cocktail for stirring up extremism in this country. I have spoken out again and again for the need to give the home secretary the power to deport foreign citizens who are troublemakers.

"And if they can't deport them – lock them up."

Tensions continued to simmer across the county, with an attack on a mosque in Gillingham taking place just hours after the horrific scenes in south London.

And on Friday, police confirmed a

Continued on page 2



A BUMPER HARVEST

RED-DY: Kent's gardeners claimed gold at RHS Chelsea Flower Show – **SEE INSIDE**

AUCTION

Peter Cushing items on sale

A COLLECTION of items once belonging to legend of the silver screen, Peter Cushing, will go under the hammer to raise money for a Canterbury hospice.

The items from the actor, who lived in Whitstable for many years, include artwork he produced.

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SOCIETY

Immigration: The big debate

IT CONTINUES to divide opinion quite unlike any other political topic – so just where do you stand on immigration?

The county faces a strain on publicly-funded services, yet many of our traditional industries now rely on imported labour. Inside, we take a special look at the issues.

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SPORT

Kent signs big naming deal

THE St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury is set to have a new name after securing a major corporate naming rights deal.

It confirmed this week it had signed a 10-year contract worth a 'seven-figure' sum.

For the full details – and the name – see inside. **PAGE 10**

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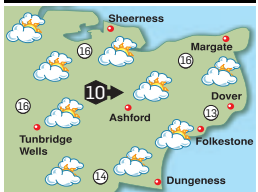
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Weather



TODAY: Largely fine and dry with sunny spells. Moderate winds. Max temp 14-17C (57-63F). **TONIGHT:** Staying dry with clear skies. Min temp 7-10C (45-50F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	—	—	12.27	6.8
Margate	01.07	4.9	13.24	4.7
St Mary's	06.06	5.8	18.30	6.0

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 16C	Min 7C
Tuesday	Max 14C	Min 7C
Wednesday	Max 14C	Min 7C
Thursday	Max 14C	Min 7C
Friday	Max 16C	Min 8C
Saturday	Max 17C	Min 9C

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CONTACTS

Publisher: Simon Irwin
Email: simon.irwin@archant.co.uk
Editor: Chris Britcher
Email: chris.britcher@archant.co.uk
Address: Apple Barn, Smeeth, TN25 6SS
Editorial: News: 01303 817100
Leisure: 01303 817022
Sport: 01303 817177
Email: editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
Advertising: Jobs/Notices: 01303 817056
Business: 01303 817056
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Police increase their presence and urge calm after horrifying murder

Continued from front page

had been arrested for a 'racially aggravated assault' in Gillingham High Street on Thursday evening.

But fellow Tory MP, Rochester and Strood's Mark Reckless, dismissed Mr Brazier's comments.

He said: "I wouldn't agree with the references to foreign policy. We only have to look at what happened in Bosnia in the early 90s, when we actually intervened largely to defend the Muslim population.

"I would note I believe we should be able to deport people more easily who could be a threat to our society.

"However, I don't think that was the case here, with two people who were born in Britain.

"And I would also note that Abu Qatada is in prison at Belmarsh less than a mile a way from where this incident happened."

Mayor of London Boris Johnson added: "It is completely wrong to blame this killing on the religion of Islam, but it is also equally wrong to try to draw any link between this murder and British foreign policy or the actions of British forces who are risking their lives abroad



TRAGIC LOSS: Drummer Lee Rigby, who was brutally killed in London this week

for the sake of freedom. The fault lies wholly and exclusively in the warped and deluded mindset of the people who did it."

Kent Police insist they are taking a "zero tolerance" approach to anyone

looking to commit any sort of misguided revenge attack and have stepped up visible patrols across the county.

A higher police presence in areas with Muslim communities and outside barracks has been apparent.

Assistant Chief Constable Gary Beauchamp was clear about his team's outlook.

He said: "If there is anybody contemplating a crime as a result of these horrific events there will be an absolute zero-tolerance approach in this county.

"We will come down on people very hard indeed. We will be steadfast in our ambition to do that and bring the full weight of the law on to people who may do things like that."

Gillingham and Rainham MP Rehman Chishti condemned the attack in London and asked for calm in his home constituency.

He said: "We should not let this horrific attack in Woolwich divide our community and drive us apart.

"Medway's diverse community has integrated well over many decades and I know this will remain the case. Those individuals responsible for this callous murder should face the severest sentence possible from our courts."

TRANSPORT

Now Boris targets Kent's rail service

KENT County Council has called on the Department for Transport to put the brakes on plans by Boris Johnson and Transport for London to take over Kent's suburban rail services.

Following a meeting at County Hall, which brought together council chiefs and representatives from passenger and commuter groups, it called on the Transport for London plans to be put on hold until the impact of any such move on all Kent commuter lines was made clear.

There has been talk of routes to Dartford and Sevenoaks coming under the wing of TfL, which would allow commuters to use their Oyster cards.

Currently the service is operated by Southeastern.

Speaking at the fifth Rail Summit in Maidstone, the KCC cabinet member for transport and environment, David Brazier, said: "We want to make sure any changes lead to benefits for all Kent rail commuters. We do not want to see TfL proposals go ahead that would benefit London commuters while disadvantaging Kent commuters."

Chatham and Aylesford MP Tracey Crouch added: "We believe the implications of this takeover had not been fully assessed."

COMING UP IN THE NEXT MONTH

ALSO



Education June 2

Colleges and schools go head-to-head to woo students.

Business Quarter June 9

A round-up of the biggest business stories, profiles and analysis of the markets.



Motability June 16

We look at some of the fantastic offers and deals available through approved dealers.

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CELEBRITY

Hammer Horror star's possessions auctioned to raise funds for hospice

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

IT SEEMS even in death, star of the silver screen Peter Cushing is giving something back to the community he loved the most.

Almost 20 years after his death, items belonging to the international star – famous for his roles in the Hammer Horror movies, Star Wars and Sherlock Holmes – will be auctioned off and the funds donated to Pilgrims Hospice in Canterbury, where the actor spent his final days in 1994.

His former assistant Bernard Broughton, who lives in Sittingbourne and is behind this latest charity drive, said the way hospice staff took care of his friend was “marvellous”.

“My ex-wife and I looked after Peter for the last 25 years of his life up until the day he moved into the hospice. He knew he had terminal cancer,” he told KoS.

Pilgrims Hospice took care of the star, who lived in Whitstable, until he died aged 81.

“They were so good to him that in the years since he died we have done what we can to support it, like donating some of his wonderful paintings,” said Mr Broughton.

As executor of Cushing's estate, Mr Broughton is auctioning off some of the actor's possessions through Canterbury Auction Galleries and money raised will go to the Pilgrims Hospice.

Items include two walking sticks, a silver pipe awarded to Cushing when he was named Pipeman of the Year in 1968, a gold-plated Dunhill lighter, a variety of books – including Peter Cushing: The Complete Memoirs, released this year to celebrate the 100 years since his birth – and a print of one of the watercolours he painted.

Mr Broughton said: “I shouldn't be surprised if there is a lot of interest. Peter's paintings are very



well known and the fact one is in the auction will attract a lot of interest.”

Canterbury Auction Galleries has waived any fee for holding the auction.

Michael Roberts, from the company, said the lot will go up for sale on June 12.

“I think there will be quite a lot of interest; he wasn't just a famous actor, he was a local man,” he said. “There should be a great turnout.

Cushing was widely known as the “gentleman of horror”, with his kind nature in stark contrast to the sinister characters he played in the Hammer Horror films.

He spent more than 40 years in Whitstable and his seafront home still regularly attracts visitors who rest on a seat he donated to the town at Cushing's View – the spot where he loved to sit and watch the sea.



FOR SALE: A print of a painting by Cushing and a number of other items are to be auctioned in aid of the Pilgrims Hospice where he ended his days

Close friends said he felt safe in Whitstable and that the community had looked after him over the years.

Mr Broughton said: “He was a national institution. He was an international star. But he was also a gentleman.”

The actor appeared in 91 films, perhaps most famously the Hammer movies alongside Christopher Lee, who would become his greatest friend, and Vincent Price, in the likes of Dracula and The Curse of Frankenstein.

COURT

Headbutting fan ban

A GILLINGHAM football fan has been banned from all professional football matches for three years after headbutting a steward during a League Two game in April.

Billy Jay Smallman, 23, of Littlebourne Avenue, Gillingham, had been refused entry to Cheltenham's Whaddon Road prior to Gillingham's 1-0 defeat.

He pleaded guilty to actual bodily harm at Cheltenham Magistrates' Court on Tuesday, received a Football Banning Order and fined.

DEVELOPMENT

Plans go up in smoke

PLANS for a major new crematorium on the outskirts of Canterbury have been thrown out by council planning chiefs.

The scheme for St Stephen's Hill, put forward by Mercia Ltd, has now been withdrawn. It had sparked concerns over whether such a facility was needed in addition to the existing site in Barham.

CRIME

Supermarket warning

SUPERMARKET shoppers are being warned to be on the look-out for distraction crooks.

The thieves distract shoppers getting into their cars by asking for directions, while an accomplice pinches wallets and purses.

It follows a number of incidents in recent weeks, including at sites in Whitstable, Tenterden and Canterbury.

COMPETITION

Could you write a story in just 100 words?

ANYONE wanting to try their hand at this month's 100-word short story competition has just a week left to enter.

Already more than 400 entries have been received from young and old alike.

Organised by Kent County Council and supported by KoS and BBC Radio Kent, the contest is designed to form part of National Share a Story month. The competition is

open to anyone and can be on any topic.

The only restriction is your story should be no longer than 100 words. And if 100 words sounds a bit too brief, that is part of the fun.

There are four age categories: school Year 2 and under, Year 3-6, Year 7-11 and adults.

The closing date for entries is Friday, May 31.

There will be prizes for the

winners in each category of £50 in book tokens and £10 tokens for the runners-up.

Visit www.kent.gov.uk/100words to enter. Or send your story by post, including your name, contact details and which category you are entering to: 100 Word Stories c/o Business Support Team, Kent County Council, County Hall, County Road, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ.

NEED INSPIRATION? TAKE A LOOK AT THESE ENTRIES

Adult age group

It was Saturday night and they were definitely her numbers – Kathy knew that for sure.

She had definitely bought the ticket, but where was it?

She searched everywhere. High and low. In pockets, in drawers, in cupboards, in purses, but it was nowhere to be seen. The jackpot that week was over £6,000,000! She had to find the ticket. Then – hoorah! Immense relief. She spotted it, half hidden under the paper. She was already spending the money in her mind when she contacted Camelot. Sorry Mrs Connor, they said. Right numbers, wrong day. Your ticket is for Wednesday, not Saturday.

Year 7 to Year 11 (11-16) age group

I headed down the dark corridors of the dreaded school of spies. I felt like I could be ambushed at any time! I looked down at my timetable: lesson one: weaponry, lesson two: camouflage, then a double lesson on tracking. I hated it here, teachers stared at you suspiciously and in assembly everybody stared ahead silently.

It was so quiet that if it wasn't for the teachers' lectures, the scribbling down with pens or the footsteps of the students, you could hear a pin drop.

I stood in the corridor when something hit me; I was dead.

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News

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EDUCATION

Gove gives stamp of approval to a further two free schools for county

By **Marijke Cox**

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

TWO new free schools were given the green light this week by the Government.

The controversial new establishments were rubber-stamped by education secretary Michael Gove as part of 102 free schools approved nationwide.

Free schools are set up by teachers, parents, religious groups or charities and receive state funding through central government. They sit outside local authority control but must demonstrate a need in the local area as to why they are opening.

One will be the Inspire school based on the current site of The Oaks in Walderslade. It will be

a school for children with special educational needs, initially welcoming an intake of 40 students when it opens in September 2014, before doubling that number.

The other will be the Jubilee Primary School in Maidstone - the exact location of which has yet to be confirmed.

Tiger Free School in Maidstone was the first of its kind to open in the county, with more set to follow from September 2013 onwards - among them schools in Hadlow and Wye.

Michael Gove says the 102 new free school applications he approved this week will create up to 50,000 new school places.

The next deadline for applications to open a free school is September 2013.



LAW

Teen in Alps tragedy

A TEENAGE girl from Sheerness involved in the devastating coach crash in the French Alps last month which killed the driver and left others seriously injured, says the crash was the worst day of her life.

Nicola Read, 19, suffered injuries and psychological trauma. She said: "The last month has been absolute hell."

She and other passengers have hired legal firm Irwin Mitchell to seek compensation.

COUNCIL

KCC unveils chairman

ERIC Hotson has been elected as chairman of Kent County Council - replacing the outgoing Richard King.

Cllr Hotson, who represents Maidstone Rural South, will be the ceremonial representative of the council for the next 12 months and will chair county council meetings.

A former leader of Maidstone Borough Council, he has served as a Conservative county councillor since June 2001.

IMMIGRATION

An essential part of our

Special KOS Report

Marijke Cox looks

A POLITICAL hot potato and one which divides opinion perhaps like no other - the issue of immigration in Kent remains the most thorny of topics.

Too often subject to views mired in political correctness or with racist overtones, tackling the issue is akin to walking on egg shells.

Yet rational, mature debate is needed now perhaps more than ever to dispell some of the myths while also acknowledging it is an issue which needs addressing.

Kent is, after all, in the front line. As the main entry point to the UK it is often the starting point for immigrants. As a consequence, the county can pay a high price as it caters and cares for those arriving on our shores.

Ill-feeling and resentment is created - especially in areas already feeling the economic pinch - if there is a perception of immigrants "taking British jobs". The reality, of course, is that some of Kent's most traditional industries are now supported and kept alive by a migrant workforce - recruited because of a lack of interest from British workers.

It is a situation which has the potential to create severe tensions - often built on false claims, scaremongering and xenophobia - and undermines a modern Britain which has long prided itself on its multi-ethnic tapestry.

Yet to suggest there is not a problem which needs addressing is to bury your head in the sand. There are very real concerns which face each and every one of us in Kent.

So what is the reality of the situation? And just what are the differences between foreign nationals entering this county?

After Ukip's success in the local elections, the Coalition hit back by outlining more stringent measures to tackle classic concerns; of the strain on local services and housing. But critics argue it will make little difference to what they claim is practically an open door policy.

Figures released this week by the Office for National Statistics, however, show a sharp decline in net migration, a decrease of more than a third since 2010. It is now at its lowest level for a decade although researchers argue much of this is to do with a drop in the number of international students coming over here to study.

Despite the drop, fear has been whipped up by right-wing media outlets and political parties, particularly Ukip, warning that work restrictions due to be lifted in Romania and Bulgaria next year will spark an influx into this country, causing pressure on our already strained public services.

As with most aspects of the argument, there is a dollop of truth on both sides. Yes, publicly-funded services in Kent will have to absorb a higher cost than many authorities. Yet the number of immigrants coming from Eastern Europe would appear to be dramatically exaggerated. Listen to some, and tens of millions will be flooding in. Listen to others and it could be as few as 100,000.

Little wonder confusion reigns.



The main issue for Kent County Council has, thus far, been primarily practical. If even tens of thousands enter the county there will be a cost to us all, as council taxpayers.

As a result, KCC is preparing a report to look at how it will cope and is calling on Government to ensure there is adequate financial support to allow it to take the strain.

COMMUNITY COHESION

Surprisingly it is not the port town of Dover or its neighbouring districts which have the highest number of foreign nationals, but Canterbury.

This is likely to be due to international students at the University of Kent and Canterbury Christ Church University.

Migrant Help's Robert McCrea said: "Community cohesion with the migrant population is strong and this has enhanced Canterbury."

He stressed that in Dover and Folkestone, community cohesion with migrants has increased over the last decade.

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cultural and labour mix or a drain on resources?

at the highly controversial and often misunderstood subject of immigration



here from overseas. The British person therefore can't get work and ends up on benefits. This is an economic issue.

"Immigration is bad for the economy, it's bad for the taxpayer and it's bad for my constituency.

"Why not invest in the citizens of this country? We need to have a firm dialogue with businesses. They need to realise the potential (of British workers) and see it's good for the economy."

His views will reflect those of many others in the county.

Yet they mask a different reality in some sectors. Just last week, we reported how Kent's horticultural industry was struggling to recruit British workers and was only being kept afloat by migrants, particularly from eastern Europe.

There is an equally strong argument to suggest British people are less prepared to get their hands dirty with what are seen as the more menial jobs. Employment laws demand agricultural workers, for example, are paid at least the minimum wage.

Even Mr Elphicke admits employers turning to a migrant workforce may be an issue very much made in Britain: "I think the soft approach to benefits and the welfare state, and an open door policy to immigration has undermined the work ethic. We need to have a conversation with our own community. Speak to them about jobs such as fruit picking and other manual tasks.

"This is not just about telling our businesses to invest in a British workforce, but being firm and telling people this is the kind of work they could do. We should be less tolerant of those who don't want to work and businesses who don't want to invest in the country's future."

Robert McCrea, chief executive of Migrant Help, which has its headquarters in Dover, said the majority of migrants do contribute to society. He challenges some of the common complaints.

He explains: "Some politicians work with the media to get headlines out about migrants taking our houses, taking our jobs. Migrants come here to work; they contribute through National Insurance and support themselves.

"My own feeling is there is tremendous pressure on the economy, but I would question how much migrants contribute to that. We have a lot of skilled workers coming here from overseas.

"To address the lack of British nationals working in agriculture we have to move away from the migrant issue and towards the education issue. When I was a young lad I did lots of jobs, all the kinds of jobs a migrant would do.

"There now seems to be higher expectations than what these jobs can offer."

He also stressed that only seven per cent of migrants are claiming benefits.

But while this may seem low, some would argue that as a country trying to get back on its feet from one of the worst recessions in history, this seven per cent is too big a bill to foot.

Can we really burden the weight of migrants needing benefits?

Absolutely not, according to Prime Minister David Cameron, who vowed to restrict migrants' access to benefits.

But will this happen before, as speculation suggests, thousands of Romanians and Bulgarians move to the UK next year?

In a report to cabinet in April, KCC leader Paul Carter commissioned a study into the potential impacts. He said: "Despite the Government conclusion that the impact of migration from Bulgarian and Romanian citizens will likely be low at the national level, the risk of even relatively low levels of additional demand at the local level on already overstretched budgets needs to be considered and prepared for as far as possible."

Mr Elphicke, however, thinks the concerns are being "oversold".

"There's a fear element of Ukip scaremongering," he said. "Nevertheless, we've got to crack down on NHS tourism, stop people coming over here to claim benefits, there shouldn't be housing provision.

"Public services should come first to the people who have contributed through tax. It's morally wrong – people shouldn't be able to just come here and claim our public services.

"Free movement of goods is sensible," he reflects, "free movement of people is not."

Tory MP for Rochester and Strood Mark Reckless returned from a trip to Bucharest this week.

He had travelled with the home affairs select committee to look at the extent of poverty and unemployment and factors which might push people to come to the UK, and to see what could be done to discourage substantial migration.

He said: "One key problem we have in the UK is the interaction between immigration and our welfare system. Unlike most other EU countries, we have a means-tested rather than contributory system which pays over quite substantial tax credits to people with low and some middling incomes who have children.

"This may be quite a draw to Romanians and Bulgarians even when they want to work.

"Of course my preferred solution is to leave the EU and take back control of our own borders to decide who we allow into our country."

But it's not just a migrant workforce which forms part of the thick soup of immigration issues. There is a growing problem of human trafficking, with the majority of victims from eastern Europe and Nigeria.

Migrant Help's Mr McCrea said it was the second biggest type of organised crime behind drugs.

"While drugs trafficking is dropping, human trafficking is increasing. People are reusable and easily moved around," he said. "Victims are trafficked into the sex industry, for labour exploitation, domestic servitude and organ harvesting."

He said Migrant Help, which offers support to destitute migrants and victims of traffickers, said nationwide the charity sees men on a daily basis who have been tortured, beaten and raped and harrowing tales of people trying to flee their home countries for fear of persecution.

It all adds up to a quandary which will not be swift in its resolve, and should not be based on fear but sound sense and compassion.

While the harrowing tales of the hardships of migrants is all too real in our county, can we continue to support them while we have home-grown problems of our own.

On the other hand, can we as a country turn our backs on those who need our help? Perhaps more significantly, do we want to be a country that does just that?

■ Share your views with us: Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or write to The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth TN25 6SS.



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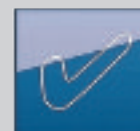
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One of the problems likely to have caused ill-feeling in communities is the complexity of immigration.

From migrants who are legally allowed to work and who contribute to the public purse, to asylum seekers fleeing persecution in their own country and illegal immigrants flouting the rules – the different types of immigrants makes it impossible, and indeed dangerous, to generalise.

Conservative MP for Dover and Deal Charlie Elphicke – whose constituency is the 'front door' for many entering the country – questions why there is even a need for immigration.

He explained to KoS: "It causes pressure on jobs and wages, impacting low-earning members of our community. It's morally wrong to bring people in from overseas to do the work our own countrymen can do. People feel that; they want a job, they want their kids to have a job.

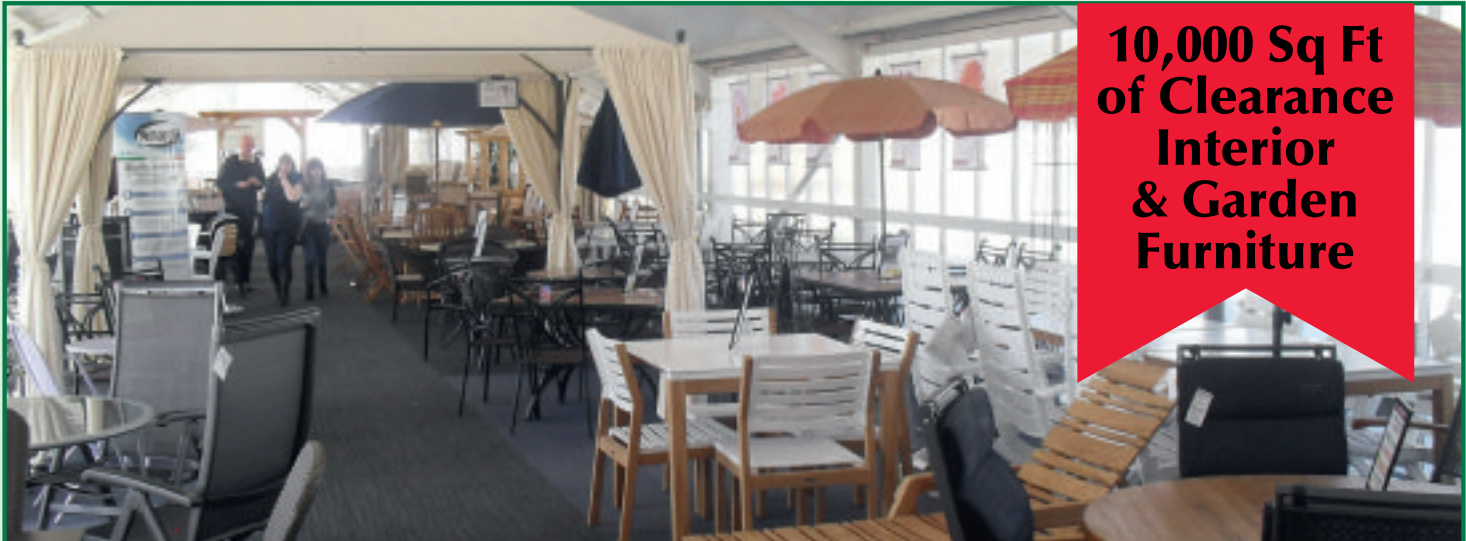
"There are selfish businesses that bring people



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HORTICULTURE



PRETTY SPECIAL:
(From left)
EMR's floating tree, the Orchid Society of Great Britain and landscape designer Jo Thompson all picked up awards at the flower show

County's gardeners reap golden crop with their award-winning displays at Chelsea Flower Show

By Joe Bill

joe.bill@archant.co.uk

GREEN-FINGERED experts blossomed at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show this week as the county took home a clutch of top prizes from the most prestigious horticultural showcase.

Five of the prized gold medals were won by Kent's gardening professionals at the annual event held in the ground of the Chelsea Hospital in London.

There were top marks for Edenbridge's Roger Platt, and his Windows Through Time exhibit, as well as Hadlow's Downderry Nursery.

Simon Charlesworth, from Downderry Nursery, said: "It was great to see we'd won gold, es-

pecially as it's been six years of silver gilts. The standard has been high as there have been more golds than I've ever known at Chelsea.

"I think it gives Kent a great profile as the true Garden of England for gardeners of England."

The Orpington-based Orchid Society of Great Britain also claimed gold in the floral marquee category, as did Brookfield Plants from Ashford.

The final winner was Sevenoaks Flower Club which took home the top gong in the flower arranging category.

There was also a silver medal for Cranbrook's landscape designer Jo Thompson for her feature garden piece entitled Stop the Spread.

East Malling Research (EMR) received a silver gilt flora for their exhibit which displayed a floating

tree and its roots designed to celebrate their role in improving the global productivity of fruit trees.

Chairman of the East Malling Trust, Will Sibley, said: "The scientific work undertaken over the last century at EMR, and in particular its work on rootstocks, has transformed the productivity of the world's fruit industry."

"At a time when we need to make the public more aware of the role scientific research plays in the food they eat, what better way to demonstrate the positive connection than by showing them how an apple tree actually functions."

Meanwhile, florists Sheila Aaby, from Orpington, and Sevenoaks' Maggie Temple were awarded a silver and bronze medal respectively from the flower arranging category.

KENT'S ROLL OF HONOUR

CATEGORY: Floral Marquee

Brookfield Plants (Ashford)	Gold
Downderry Nursery (Hadlow)	Gold
East Malling Research (East Malling)	Silver
Orchid Society of Great Britain (Orpington)	Gold

CATEGORY: Show Garden

The M&G Centenary Garden 'Windows Through Time' - Roger Platt (Edenbridge)	Gold
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CATEGORY: Flower Arranging

Maggie Temple (Sevenoaks)	Bronze
Sevenoaks Flower Club	Gold
Sheila Aaby (Orpington)	Silver

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News

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CONSERVATION

Fears for wildlife as developments pose a threat to natural habitats

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A PIONEERING wildlife stock-take of some of our most important native species has revealed a worrying decline with fears some may disappear from our shores altogether.

The State of Nature report, drawn up by leading scientists and backed by Sir Richard Attenborough, found that species are at risk of being wiped out by economic spread.

And with Kent at the centre of many development proposals, fears are for the future of some of our most important wildlife.

More than one in 10 of all species in the UK, assessed as part of the research, are under threat of being wiped out. But it gets worse. In Kent, the decline of the lesser spotted woodpecker is thought to be even worse than the national average, due to habitat destruction.

In the 310 hectares of Blean Woods, located north of Canterbury, lesser spotted woodpecker territories have declined significantly from 20 years ago. The loss of three out of four pairs is being seen across the county.

The grazing wetlands of the North Kent Marshes are the last remaining stronghold for lowland breeding waders, but they face threats to their habitat through development pressures, including proposals for a Thames Estuary airport.

And despite the overall area of UK woodland increasing, woodland birds have been declining since the 1970s, butterflies since the 1990s and woodland moth numbers have halved.

AT-RISK SPECIES

■ Adder ■ Distinguished jumping spider ■ Four banded weevil wasp ■ Lesser spotted woodpecker ■ Maid of Kent rove beetle ■ Nightingale ■ Redshank ■ Tree sparrow (pictured) ■ Turtle dove ■ Water vole



RSPB south east regional director, Chris Corrigan, said the region was the country's economic powerhouse, meaning there is extra pressure on its natural environment.

He said: "The region has consistently shown the greatest declines in both the farmland and woodland bird indicator lists and there is nothing to suggest that these declines are slowing."

Research into UK wildlife found of the 1,256 woodland species studied, 60 per cent have decreased and 34 per cent have decreased strongly. Declines are across all habitats and species, but are greatest among insects, such as moths, butterflies and beetles. Other previously common species, like the lesser spotted woodpecker, barbastelle bat and hedgehog are also vanishing.

GONE FROM THE COUNTY BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

Some species now extinct in Kent include a long list of butterflies and moths.

The natterjack toad and sand lizard became extinct here in the 1960s but in recent years both have been the subject of successful reintroduction programmes.

Birds that no longer breed here include: wryneck, red-backed shrike, curl bunting, Kentish plover, willow tit, wood warbler, stone curlew, corncrake, guillemot, whinchat.

Greater and lesser horseshoe bats were also

lost in the last century.

Some 32 plant species disappeared from Kent before 1900.

Between 1900 and 1980, 21 species became extinct in the county, an average of 2.6 species a decade. Since 1980, the rate of extinction appears to have accelerated, with 12 species vanishing from Kent, an average of four species per decade.

Some plant species lost from Kent are field fleawort, moonwort and small fleabane.

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BUSINESS

What's in a Neame? Brewer's naming rights deal will see Kent playing cricket at Spitfire Ground

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

KENT County Cricket Club will see a "significant" benefit from a new 10-year deal for the naming rights of its St Lawrence Ground home, according to chief executive Jamie Clifford.

The Faversham brewery has signed a deal, believed to be worth a seven-figure sum, for Kent's 140-year home to be renamed The Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence.

It continues a long-standing partnership with the company. The club's side in the 20-over form of the game are already known as The Spitfires as a consequence of the brand's main sponsorship of the team.

The ground will undergo rebranding through the season, and Shepherd Neame will also supply the county's beer, wine and spirits for the next decade.

As part of the agreement, the club will also annually identify a fixture as a Battle of Britain memorial match to commemorate the bravery of those who fought in the skies over Kent in the key aerial battle of World War Two.

This year the fixture will be against Nottinghamshire on Monday, August 26, during Canterbury Week.

Although the deal may unsettle some traditionalists, it is a big boost for the club, which has been through troubled financial times.



PULLING 'EM IN: The St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury has been Kent's home for the past 140 years

However, Mr Clifford was quick to insist it was by no means a get-rich-quick scheme.

He said: "It's a significant uplift on the support they already supply to us. It's an uplift and multiplied over 10 years."

The negotiations started 18 months ago as talks started about renewing the brewery's sponsorship, which was due to run out at the end of the current season.

The club has considered a suitable naming rights partner for almost a decade, but plans were put on the back-burner as the club looked to redevelop its headquarters.

Mr Clifford said: "It is the one last big commercial property that remained for us, so it was important to unlock the value within those rights."

"Crucially, we had to work with the right partner, and a brand that was an obvious fit. Because of the long commitment and the Spitfires link, this was the perfect fit."

Shepherd Neame chief executive Jonathan Neame said: "We have learnt from some of those other naming deals. It doesn't become instantaneous. It works both ways but only works if it becomes long-term. From our perspective it wouldn't make sense if another company did the sponsorship. The club is in a rebuilding phase and we want to be part of that."

A MONIKER FOR MONEY

NAMING rights became big business for sports clubs first in America, when the positioning of a corporate name next to that of the venue became an extremely high-profile way to become associated with a particular team or city.

What's more, it has become more and more popular.

Particularly effective for new-build sites that have no historic name to compete with – such as Arsenal Football Club's Emirates Stadium – the influence has spread to entertainment venues such as the O2 in Greenwich.

The deals are normally big money and long-term – normally a minimum of 10 years.

This guarantees revenue streams for the venue and allows the brand involved to leverage its association over long-term marketing.

However, it also runs the risk of upsetting traditionalists.

■ What do you think? Share your views: email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or write to The Editor, KoS, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford TN25 6SS.

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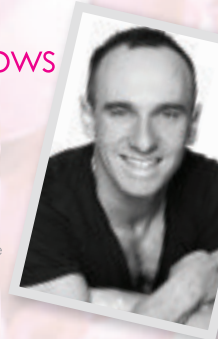
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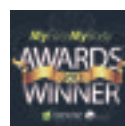
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ENVIRONMENT

From water recycling to a new reservoir, just how do we keep our supply flowing?

Extreme times call for extreme measures, as water firms try to solve an ever-growing problem with some conventional and not so conventional methods, as **Joe Bill** reports...

LAST year's inclement weather brought with it a touch of farce.

Days after a drought order was introduced in April, amid talk of the only way to ease the water shortage being a non-stop deluge, the heavens duly opened and we spent much of the summer getting drenched.

The drought was swiftly declared null and void, and all those pictures of Bewl reservoir in Lamberhurst running dry were replaced with scenes of water lapping generously at its shores.

That the situation could go from two such extremes, and so swiftly, cast a bright light on water management issues across the county – particularly here in Kent.

It may not seem like it, but as one of the driest parts of the UK, and with an ever-growing population, the demand for water is becoming more intense here than elsewhere in the UK.

In fact, we live in a region classified as 'water stressed' by the Environment Agency.

The trick, of course, is to ensure the change in the climate which would appear to be ushering in long, wet winters and drier summers, ensures a balance when it comes to the supply and demand of water.

To which end there are two major projects in the proverbial pipeline. The first is the creation of a major new reservoir in the east of the county,



HIGH AND DRY: Utility firms are looking at a number of measures to safeguard against water shortages



to help store water and complement Bewl in the west; a relatively straightforward approach.

But another solution, which will take a little more selling to the public, is Southern Water's proposal to introduce recycled water – including that previously used from showers and, yes, toilets – to help ease the strain on supplies.

Needless to say, the recycling would see all the water heavily filtered and diluted by being released back into our rivers first, but it may be an essential one if we are to ease problems predicted over the next 25 years.

Meryick Gough, water quality and strategy expert at Southern Water, said: "As our current water sources rely on rain during the winter to provide supplies for the rest of the year, it's vital we start planning now."

The proposal, along with pipes linking Kent and West Sussex, is out for consultation and underpins the forward thinking of many other water companies across the country.

All of which is dictated by our ever-changing climate.

Former Canterbury Christ Church University lecturer in environmental science and geography, Dr Geoff Meaden, said: "In summer there are likely to be greater water shortages than at present, hence the need to transfer water into Kent, but in winter it will be the opposite with much more rainfall and the likelihood of flooding along our rivers.

"This will mean extensive and costly flood defences have to be in place and other measures, such as no new building on flood plains, and designating networks of fields that can accommodate flood waters during times of extreme rainfall."

Yet for every proposal, a recurring issue is quite how the water companies tackle the perennial problems of leakage which sees billions of litres of water lost around the UK every day.

Last year, the two Kent suppliers, South East Water and Southern Water, were reported to be losing 95.3 million litres and 92.1 million litres of water per day respectively – enough to supply nearly 1.25 million people.

In the face of rising bills and new homes adding additional pressure on resources, it doesn't sit comfortably with residents.

Steve Dawe is the Tonbridge-based spokesman for the local Green Party. He believes water companies should be more heavily regulated by the Government and held accountable for the amount of wasted water through faulty pipes.

He said: "There has been a huge underinvestment in dealing with leakage and they are going to charge us all to build this proposed new reservoir. Conservation is considerably cheaper than investment in new reservoirs."

The proposed reservoir in east Kent would be at Broad Oak near Canterbury, in addition to a desalination plant capable of turning the sea's salt water into drinking water, operating at Reculver, on the Kent coast.

Both have their critics, but South East Water remain convinced it is the way forward.

Director Paul Seeley explains: "We're proposing a range of options that make what water we already have go further, but on their own, these initiatives will not be enough to meet the shortfall."

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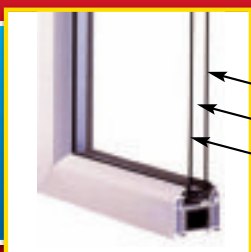
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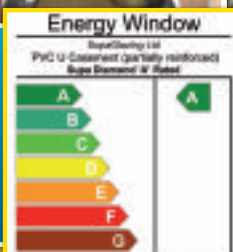
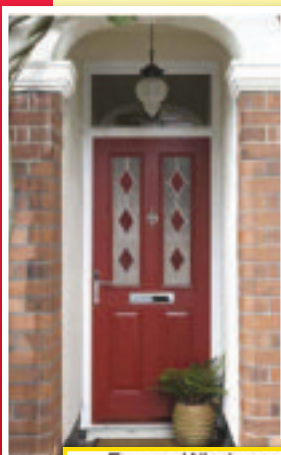
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GARDEN WORLD

DEVELOPMENT

'There is nothing wrong with being a Nimby'

TV star Griff Rhys Jones is urging us to stand up and protect our communities, as **Dave Mairs** discovered

"If you have an interest in what's in your own back garden, then what you look out at will be nice," Griff Rhys Jones explains, "but if you don't, then the chances are it won't."

He applies it to the cities, towns and villages in which we all live. And the writer, presenter and latterly urban campaigner, is passionate in his desire to encourage people to stand up and fight for their built environment.

Sitting down with KoS during a four-day tour of Kent, the president of Civic Voice articulated his support for those who object to the schemes of developers and who have been tagged as one of the 'Nimby' (not in my back yard) brigade.

Still best known for his comedy work in shows such as Not the Nine O'Clock News and Alas Smith and Jones, and more recently in Three Men in a Boat, his role with Civic Voice, the organisation that evolved from the financial collapse of the Civic Trust, sees him taking such jaunts to highlight its work.

He explains: "More than 300 civic societies joined this phoenix that rose from the Civic Trust ashes – but it was a good phoenix that went back to its roots and now links closely to its members."

"I'm going round to the societies and giving them publicity. The countryside has the CPRE and our stately homes have the National Trust, so here's Civic Voice standing up for our urban areas – where the majority of us live."

Much of this entails work for his production company Modern Television, which "makes most of the programmes I make... and other programmes". Forthcoming projects include A Poet In New York, a BBC Two drama about Dylan Thomas, and a programme for ITV "about the character of Welsh people, as a Welsh exile".

He accepts that his status as Welsh exile is a little flaky, given that he was "brought up in the Welsh ghetto of Epping [Essex]". The fact, though, that his passport has Cardiff as his birthplace allows him such an honorific title.

The Welsh blood, though, has been thickened by his purchase of a 70-acre hill farm in Pembroke

shire, on which buildings not used for agricultural purposes are restored and rented as "authentic Welsh properties". The process had been "very expensive", he said, but now people could "rent and go – wow".

Taking in Canterbury, Ramsgate, Faversham and Rochester on his travels through Kent, he was particularly impressed with the document A Residents' Vision For Canterbury. Written by volunteers from the cathedral city, it delivers an alternative future to that put forward by the local authority.

"It is a serious, intelligent, forward-thinking piece of work," he explains.

"Everyone should get hold of a copy. It's written by serious people who have studied their city. The local authority should be saying this is a document we ought to be studying. People in Canterbury felt the [council's] local plan was a long way from understanding the city and the needs of its residents."

Through the affiliated civic societies, Civic Voice is an impressively growing force. "We have a unified voice," said Mr Jones. "We want our 75,000 members to be involved."

"I'm always anxious to say 'we want more members' and stress that it's not just hard work – it's a lot of fun. It's a fantastic thing to say here's a building that isn't normally open to the public. We've come here to Ramsgate – you can't but walk around and think this is beautiful, with its Regency and Georgian architecture."

Two places on Mr Jones' Ramsgate itinerary were Ellington Park, now the subject of a Heritage Lottery Regeneration Bid, and the former Ramsgate Motor Museum, which Project Motorhouse plans to haul back from dereliction.

"With Ellington Park, the people are saying this is what we can do, so let us. It was falling into decay, but it's part of the fabric of our lives."

"People at Ellington Park are stepping forward and looking after the environment – and getting a bit of a kick out of it. There is a bit of a culture in this country that other people can do it for us, but it doesn't have to be that way."

Although keen to stress the needs of our urban environment, Mr Jones did let his attention wander to the rural landscape, which is pertinent given his recent criticism of plans for a solar farm near his Suffolk home.

"The countryside is not going to be improved if

we accelerate development at this rate. We've taken 6,000 years to get to where we are now – if every five years two per cent of our land is taken, we've probably got 250 years before we've used it all up. We can't be that selfish and greedy."

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EVENT

Motorsports legend in pole position for car rally through town which contributed to his success

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

EDENBRIDGE will see a traffic jam of a very different variety on Monday as a cavalcade of vehicles, led by legendary motorsport champion John Surtees, takes to the streets.

The 79-year-old – who remains the only man to ever win world titles on both two and four wheels – once had a factory in the town and his cars will form a key part of the Edenbridge Fun Day, which takes place this bank holiday.

It is being held to raise money for the Henry Surtees Foundation, founded in memory of Mr Surtees' son who died tragically during a Formula Two race at Brands Hatch in 2009. The 18-year-old was hit by a rival racer's stray wheel and killed instantly.

Mr Surtees became famous for his achievements, but is still very aware of the importance of the town in having produced his title-winning cars and bikes in his Station Road factory.

Speaking to KoS, Mr Surtees explained: "The core of the vehicles were built by Edenbridge people.

"I first came here when I moved my



RIDING HIGH: John Surtees, who won world titles on both two and four wheels, will head Edenbridge cavalcade

factory in 1967. Previously, I had a factory in Slough where I was working with Honda.

"At that time in Edenbridge there were one or two companies involved in metalwork and fabrication which is what we were involved in. Those sort of people had skills; they came in as apprentices and became welders.

"It's a piece of my history and Edenbridge history."

The procession will start at 2pm and

finish outside the shop where his factory was based, before it shut at the end of the 1970s after the team disbanded.

Mr Surtees will drive a TS7 Formula One car which he raced at the British Grand Prix in Brands Hatch in 1970.

Others on show include the TS14 Formula One car which Mike Hailwood drove to second place in the 1972 Italian Grand Prix; the TS15 2.0-litre Formula Two car which won the prestigious Interlagos race in Brazil in

1973; a 1960 MV Agusta four-cylinder GP motorcycle; and a 1954 BMW Rennsport twin-cylinder motorcycle.

There will also be a collection of other motorbikes and road cars, including TVRs, Lambrettas and Vespa scooters and a 1968 Jaguar S Type.

Mr Surtees said it brings back many great memories for him.

"The year which stands out in my mind is in 1960," he said.

"I won two world championships

A CONSTANT REMINDER

Continuing his work with the Henry Surtees Foundation is hugely important for John Surtees, a commitment he views as allowing him to remain close to his late son.

It provides support for important medical equipment, with a recent donation going towards blood transfusion equipment for the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance.

"I look upon it as still working with my son," he said.

"I went around the country racing with him in karting, and watched him in single seaters until he died. With these projects I feel I'm doing it with him."

on bikes, but also sat in a race car for the first time. After I had competed in a couple of races I had an offer to go to Formula One.

"I did one or two [races] in between my motorcycling commitments.

"I took second in the British Grand Prix and got pole and a record lap at the Portuguese Grand Prix. That was a special year.

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News

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ENVIRONMENT

Our beaches clean up on prestigious list of Blue Flag awards

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

THERE'S no need to travel thousands of miles to find some of the best beaches in the world – you're likely to find them a stone's throw from where you live.

East Kent – and Thanet in particular – topped the list of best and, most importantly, cleanest beaches, with more blue flags than any other part of the country.

Awarded by Keep Britain Tidy, the prestigious commendation recognises beaches for their facilities, cleanliness and for meeting the highest international standard of water quality.

Despite previous setbacks for Thanet's beaches, with six losing their blue flags in 2011, and a temporary closure last year after raw sewage was discharged into the sea, the isle can hold its head high and fly eight flags proudly.

Tourism chiefs for nine other Kent beaches were also patting themselves on the back after receiving Seaside Awards, handed out to those with the highest standards of management and which meet water quality guidelines.

Keep Britain Tidy said this year's blue flag entrants had to meet an even stricter water quality standard to qualify for the globally-recognised award, and operations director of the charity, Richard McIlwain, paid tribute to Thanet for being top of the leader board.

Cabinet member for tourism at Thanet District Council, Iris Johnston, said it was fantastic news for the area.

She said: "We continue to work hard to ensure our beaches exceed both visitors' and residents' expectations and the announcement just goes to show how serious we are about the condition of our beautiful beaches."

North Thanet MP, Sir Roger Gale, also welcomed the good news.

"It reaffirms my belief that Thanet in general, offers the best seawater bathing in the British Isles," he said.

BLUE FLAG BEACHES

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St Mildreds, Westgate
Westbrook Bay, Westbrook
Margate Sands, Margate
Botany Bay, Kingsgate
Joss Bay, Kingsgate
Stone Bay, Broadstairs

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Reculver Canterbury City Council
Tankerton Canterbury City Council
Herne Bay Canterbury City Council
Sandgate Beach Sandgate Parish Council
Beach Street, Sheerness
 Swale Borough Council
Leysdown Beach Swale Borough Council
Minster Leas Swale Borough Council
Ramsgate Main Sands Thanet District Council
Viking Bay, Broadstairs Thanet District Council



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 Thanet were
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LIVESTOCK WELFARE

Port 'risking its reputation' if it denies inspectors access to animal exports, say Greens

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

PRESSURE is growing on Dover Harbour Board to allow animal-welfare inspectors to check on the health of animals being exported for slaughter.

In the latest twist in the dispute over the live animal export industry, the Green Party has added its voice to protestors against the trade amid claims that RSPCA inspectors have been barred from the port.

The trade had been operating from Ramsgate but was switched to Dover earlier this month.

Port officials say the responsibility for the animals' welfare rests solely with the Animal Health and Veterinary Laboratories Agency (AHVLA), a government agency of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

A Dover Harbour Board spokesman suggested the RSPCA get in touch with AHVLA but did not wish to comment beyond that.

The row started after Ian Driver, who has switched from being an independent councillor to a Green member of Thanet District Council, demanded that Dover Harbour Board allow RSPCA officials in to check all the animals before they are loaded by lorry on to the ferry MV Joline, run by Dutch firm Barco de Vapor.

The controversial trade has been branded as cruel and barbaric by the RSPCA, Compassion in World Farming, actress Joanna Lumley and local parliamentarian Charlie Elphicke.

Cllr Driver has organised many protests at both Ramsgate and Dover to raise public awareness.

He said: "The presence of the RSPCA at Ramsgate forced AHVLA to up its game and check lorries full of animals much more thoroughly than before.

"This made the business of the exporters harder and that's why they are shifting to Dover, because they think they can hide their appallingly cruel trade from the eyes of our country's animal-welfare champions.

"I want to know why they have banned the RSPCA. By excluding RSPCA inspectors, the board risks damaging its reputation and signalling that high standards are no longer important.

"All ports in the country must allow RSPCA inspectors to observe loadings of live animal exports.

"We need to allow ports to refuse this awful trade."

On June 7, a public meeting at Dover Town Hall will discuss the exporter's Dover move and will hear from Gavin Grant of the RSPCA, Dil Peeling from Compassion in World Farming and MP Charlie Elphicke.

The MP told KoS: "I believe it is vitally important the RSPCA and Compassion in World Farming are fully involved with the harbour board and the ministry as they were at Ramsgate. It is the right thing to do.

"I have been having discussions with ministers and the harbour board on these points.

"I have made the point to the har-



SPEAK UP: A public meeting will be held about live animal exports in June

bour board to work with anyone concerned with animal welfare and I have raised banning live animal exports in the House of Commons.

"This whole business is bad for animal welfare and bad for the local economy, and the sooner we are shot of it the better."

The RSPCA added: "We welcome the support of the Green Party. Like Ramsgate, Dover does not have faci-

ties at or near the port to deal with emergencies and our inspectors have not been granted permission by the port to monitor the animals' welfare.

"Sadly, the animal transport industry has frequently shown violations of UK and EU regulations and RSPCA presence would help public confidence and ensure animal welfare issues are being fully addressed within the port environment."



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HISTORY

Crab and Winkle restoration is on the right track

'Passion and interest' in tunnel's engineering heritage helped to focus individuals' skills

By Chris Murphy

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

ALREADY a hugely popular cycle and ramblers route linking Whitstable to Canterbury, restoration work on what was once the Crab and Winkle Railway line has taken another major step forward.

The University of Kent has completed work on the northern portal of the Tyler Hill Tunnel – the entrance to the Grade II-listed portals and tunnels which run south under the university's Canterbury campus.

Already steeped in locomotive history, the route has associations with pioneering engineers such as George Stephenson and Isambard Kingdom Brunel – Stephenson engineering the line and a locomotive, Brunel visiting the line to conduct some experiments. It was closed for good in 1953.

Since then, some 40 per cent has been brought back to use as a cycle route.

The recent renovation included the introduction of drainage behind the parapet and wing walls, as well as the careful dismantling, rebuilding, repair and repointing of the brickwork.

A new approach footpath and fencing has also been provided to make the site more accessible.

Steven Blay, senior building surveyor at the University of Kent, said: "Given the pedigree of this structure's heritage, I think all who have worked on the project have done so with a real



passion and interest to apply their individual skills to restore it for future generations.

"It's as if the renowned engineers have been looking over everyone's shoulder and making sure we were doing it right. I like to think they would have approved."

Marcial Boo, from the Crab and Winkle Trust,

said: "The trust is wholly supportive of the University of Kent's excellent work in renovating the entrance to the historic tunnel on the old Canterbury to Whitstable Railway. It is one of the earliest railway tunnels in the world and had been showing its age, but it now looks great, thanks to the good work of the university."

THE RAILWAY LINE

The Canterbury and Whitstable Railway – known as the Crab and Winkle – was one of the first rail lines in the UK, opening in 1831.

In fact, in 1834 it issued the world's first season ticket for travel.

Built to transport Canterbury folk to the seaside during the summer, it travelled through Tyler Hill and Clowes Woods. However, in the 1920s it lost out to buses and although used to transport munitions during World War Two, it was closed in 1952 – opening briefly to help the support effort after the 1953 floods.

The line fell into disrepair, while some of Tyler Hill tunnel collapsed in 1974, causing subsidence to buildings on the university site above. The holes created were filled by using fly-ash from the Richborough Power Station.

The Crab and Winkle Trust was created in 1997 with the intention of opening the route up as a footpath and cycle route.

The renovations, which have cost in excess of £50,000, have been funded by the University of Kent and coordinated by its estates department.

The university has worked closely with Canterbury City Council, structural engineers, ecologists, local support groups and the main contractor, to complete the work.

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News

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CRIME

£6k watch case

A 20-year-old has been bailed and will appear before magistrates next month over the theft of a £6,000 Omega Seamaster watch from a jewellers in Rochester High Street.

Damien Hussey of Craydene Road in Erith was charged with theft and will appear on June 17.

COURT

Fly-tipping fine

A FLY-tipper who dumped asbestos sheeting between two houses in Rainham has been ordered by a court to pay more than £2,000.

Lee Terry, 34, of Mierscourt Road, also in Rainham, had offered to get rid of the sheeting from his father-in-law's house as a favour.

ENERGY

Councils' decision on green energy park could spark life back into Richborough site

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

MORE than a year since the iconic Richborough cooling towers were destroyed in spectacular fashion, little visible movement has been seen at the east Kent site.

Rubble and the remnants of the chimneys, blown up in March last year, has been cleared – with the exception of the steel structure of the 'turbine hall' which will be reused – and the land sits ready and waiting for redevelopment.

In February, developers of the former power station, Richborough Management Company Ltd, submitted two detailed planning applications to Dover and Thanet district councils, marking the start of an ambitious £750 million project to bring the site near Sandwich back into use as a green energy park.

And in what will be the next step in the future of the land, a spokesman for the developers told KoS plans were likely to go before the councils' planning committees for examination as soon as next month. It could potentially mean move-



CLEARED: The old cooling towers were demolished at Richborough one year ago

ment on the site later this year or the start of 2014, should no problems arise.

The spokesman said the matter was currently in the councils' hands and the developers were waiting for confirmation on when plans would go to the planning committee, expected to be in June or July.

Plans include a diesel-powered peaking plant which will generate 40 megawatts, but only operate at times of high demand or during a shortfall in supply.

Peaking plants are part of the Gov-

ernment's energy security strategy.

The site is already home to Vattenfall's Thanet Offshore Wind grid connection, and National Grid and Belgium firm Elia are currently developing plans to locate a voltage converter and grid connection for a new 1,000mw interconnector with Belgium to import and export power.

It would involve an undersea cable between Zeebrugge and Richborough, a distance of 130km.

While plans are on hold as the local authorities assess the applications, passers-by to the Sandwich site will have noticed three giant green cylinders emerging, but according to the Richborough spokesman, these belong to neighbouring Thanet Waste Services.

Earlier this year, Gary Lever, managing director at Richborough Management Company Ltd, said he was delighted with progress being made.

"We have been working on developing viable energy generating proposals which bring the site back to life," he said.

■ For information about the plans see www.richboroughenergypark.co.uk.

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ENERGY

Row over controversial method to extract shale gas ignites once more

By Marijke Cox

marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

FEARs over the use of a controversial shale gas extraction technique in Kent are increasing as senior heads at Whitehall push to deliver cheap energy through a "fracking" revolution.

And energy chiefs are even looking to sweeten up communities, persuading them to drop their opposition by offering benefits, including cash for local amenities and cheaper energy bills.

The extent of progress in the Government's fracking plan was exposed this week by environmental watchdog Greenpeace, which revealed licences are already in place for four energy companies to undertake exploratory drilling, subject to planning permission, in our county.

It means they will not need to go through the long process to be granted rights to start work.

The spotlight is on two Kent sites; land by the A257 and A256, north of Woodnesborough, near Sandwich, and Cowden near Tunbridge Wells.

Cowden has already seen test drilling take place in 2010, by energy company Cuadrilla – the firm behind drilling in Blackpool which is believed to have been responsible for two minor earthquakes.

The following year in east Kent, Coastal Oil and Gas Ltd were also given the green light by planning chiefs at County Hall to carry out exploratory work near Woodnesborough.

But a temporary ban was put in place – later to be lifted on the understanding safety procedures were in place – and so far no such fracking work has been carried out.

Greenpeace, however, has raised fresh concerns after figures from the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) showed how far along the Government was with its "aggressive fracking agenda" in Kent.

Energy campaigner at the organisation, Lawrence Carter, called on the county's MPs to make a stand.

But Tory MP for Dover and Deal, Charlie Elphicke, said fracking could be a "huge opportunity" to reduce electricity bills and create jobs.

"It will particularly help the less well-off and people in fuel poverty," he said. "It's really important, however, that there are strict checks in place and that we have 'consumer justice'.

"There is always a risk; there was a risk with coal mining, but as long as it's managed well this is an opportunity to create lower energy bills."

Mr Elphicke said it was also vital to create a mix of energy resources in the UK and to become more self-sufficient.

"We don't want to always have to depend on other countries. We must ensure we have home-grown energy."

He added: "The problem with all power supplies is no-one wants energy generation or exploration near them. That's always been the case. It's the

same if someone finds they might have a power station built near to them. But people know we need to have better energy resources."

Fellow Conservative MP Laura Sandys, who represents Thanet South, has warned public opposition will be fierce.

"Onshore wind is a walk in the park, by comparison," she said.

Parliament's energy and climate change committee released a report at the end of April, saying it was crucial to engage with industry and communities if shale exploitation plans are to move forward.

MPs on the cross-party committee stated that communities near fracking sites must be given "tangible benefits".

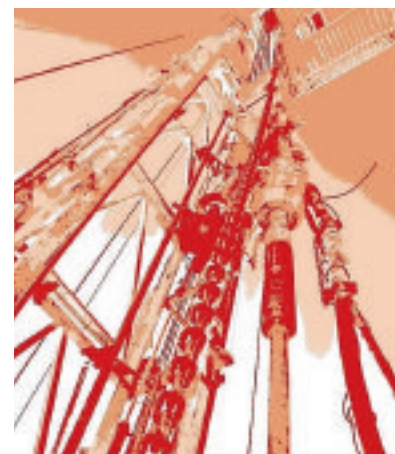
But critics are not swayed by these promises.

Dover and Deal's parliamentary candidate for Labour, Clair Hawkins, said "serious environmental concerns" had been brushed aside in the Government's "dash for gas".

"We've seen energy prices and profits soar leaving many people having to make difficult decisions about whether to heat or eat," she said.

"The energy companies need to be taken to task on this, but it shouldn't be an excuse to open up the market and our beautiful landscape to the dangers of fracking – which Ofgem says won't bring down bills anyway."

■ See the opinion page for Greenpeace's view on fracking.



SO WHAT IS FRACKING?

FRACKING – which is banned in South Africa and France, but has taken off in America – is a process of drilling for natural shale gas involving blasting water and rock-dissolving fluids underground at high pressure to break apart rocks and release gas.

Critics claim it causes contamination of water supplies, flammable tap water, greenhouse gas emissions and can lead to earthquakes.

Greenpeace this week released a list of places where it is likely to take place, based on where licences by companies who state fracking as a "primary activity" have been issued.



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KENT REMEMBERED



From kings of the land to princes of pop, this home has seen them all

By Nick Ames

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

AS ONE of the county's largest and most historic houses, you can expect a glittering past. But for this west Kent house, the guest list over the years is truly impressive.

From two archbishops of Canterbury to Henry VIII, and from medieval rebel Jack Cade to modern day heroes the Beatles and Johnny Depp, it has seen them all.

Knole House, in Sevenoaks, surrounded by its 1,000-acre deer park, has been the home of the Sackville family and its descendants since 1603 – making it one of the oldest family homes in the world.

With 365 rooms, 52 staircases, 12 entrances and seven courtyards it is also one of the biggest.

Now, the house and part of the park is in the possession of the National Trust even though the Sackville-West family still live in the building, using roughly half of it, and retain ownership of the garden.

The house was built by Thomas Bouchier, Archbishop of Canterbury, between 1456 and 1486. It was constructed on the site of an earlier house of a man named James Fiennes, a courtier and politician who served Henry VI, before being beheaded by rebels marching on London with Jack Cade – leader of the revolt.

After Bouchier's death the home passed to the Archbishop



AT HOME: Knole House is unusual in that it is still lived in

of Canterbury until 1583, when Henry VIII took it from Thomas Cranmer.

It was during Elizabeth I's time that the house was passed to the Sackvilles, through her cousin Thomas.

Jonathan Sargant of the National Trust said: "When the trust was given the house in 1946 part of the tenancy agreement was that the family could continue to live in it.

"It's an arrangement which benefits everyone.

"Many National Trust properties are unused in that way and many visitors remark how nice it feels to know someone lives at Knole and the place is in day-to-day use.

"We get around 100,000 visitors each year so the property is an extremely popular place to visit."

Displays open to the public include a collection of 17th century royal Stuart furniture, including three state beds, while the art collection includes portraits by Gainsborough and Sir Joshua Reynolds.

The organ in the private late medieval chapel is one of the oldest playable musical instruments in Britain with a date of around 1620 most likely.

Music has also played a part in the house's story in more recent years.

In January 1967, at the very height of their creative peak, the Beatles made some of the earliest rock promotional videos for the songs Penny Lane and Strawberry Fields Forever in its extensive grounds, so weaving the property into the fabric of the world's best loved group.

A stone archway through which John, Paul, George and Ringo rode on horseback is still a part of the house, which also inspired the Sergeant Pepper song Being for the Benefit of Mr Kite – based on a circus poster John Lennon found in a nearby antique shop.

Knole's film appearances include The Other Boleyn Girl and grave-robber comedy Burke and Hare, along with a stint doubling as a place of execution in the latest instalment of Captain Jack Sparrow's Pirates of the Caribbean adventures. The house also had a fleeting appearance in the Sherlock Holmes sequel Game of Shadows.



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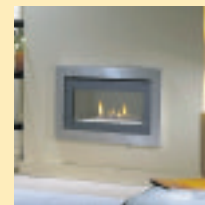
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OPINION

Drilling beneath real issue

Fracking looks to be heading to Kent and as Greenpeace energy campaigner **Lawrence Carter** writes, we're powerless to stop it

IT'S been called the environmental battle of the coming decade and it could be at a village near you, soon.

With news this week that exploration licences have been granted to four fracking companies in Kent, locals would be right to wonder what this may mean for the Garden of England.

Fracking, or hydraulic fracturing, is the process of firing water, sand and chemicals into the ground at high pressure, to explode rocks and release gas.

It has proven hugely controversial in America, despite helping to reduce energy prices, (although they have since resurged dramatically).

Here in England – two thirds of which has been earmarked for potential drilling – protest groups are sprouting up across the south east, with some saying fracking has the potential to create the sort of disruption previously seen by HS1.

The jury is out on the environmental and health risks of fracking, but people polled on the issue (for example in Chancellor George Osborne's Tatton constituency) are concerned about increased noise, pollution, traffic, earth tremors, water contamination and the impact on house prices.

In mid-2011, an experimental well in Lancashire was suspended after two mini-earthquakes and a nationwide moratorium on fracking was imposed (this was lifted in December).

The Government is worryingly gung-ho on the subject, with energy minister Michael Fallon (whose Sevenoaks constituency is in line for fracking) recently announcing there is now "nothing to stop" licences from bringing new shale drilling plans. It has also offered generous tax breaks to oil and gas companies.

Key to this is the claim that

the situation in the US can be replicated here. But the UK is not America: for one thing, we are much more densely populated. As one Conservative MP told the Financial Times: "It's one thing to have fracking in the vast plains of America."

"It's a different matter when people will see gas production in the rolling hills of Surrey."

Thanet South MP Laura Sandys has warned that controversies over wind farms will "look like a walk in the park" compared with the fight over fracking in the heartlands of England's countryside.

But won't fracking bring down energy bills?

In a word no. From energy regulator Ofgem to commodity analysts at Deutsche Bank and the energy secretary himself, the consensus is that UK shale gas will not reduce household bills.

The only people to claim otherwise are the Conservative



6699

Coalition chiefs are worryingly gung-ho on the subject

Party, none of whom have provided evidence to back this up.

The key difference is that America had no infrastructure to export gas, so when lots of shale gas was produced there was more supply than demand and the price plummeted.

In contrast, the UK is connected to the European gas market so any UK shale gas will be sold to the highest bidder on the European market, rather than reduce UK prices.

All of which suggests a lot of pain for communities in Dover, Thanet and Canterbury.

The Government response to opposition has been to gloss over it – in fact it is proposing to change planning regulations so local authorities lose decision-making powers and fracking proposals are fast tracked at central government level.

This would leave the people of Kent with very little say on local fracking projects.

KOS COMMENT

Don't let terror acts mar our communities

THE county's rich tapestry is made up of many things. There's the beautiful landscape, the miles of striking coastline and all the industry and history which define us.

Yet above all else, the key to why Kent is such a diverse, vibrant community is its people.

From those who have lived here for generations to those who arrived yesterday, we should all take pride in the warm welcome we extend to people from home and abroad.

Given the terrible deeds in Woolwich this week it is essential those communities we have developed over the years do not fracture. We must all remain tolerant and must all stand together as one, united, community.

What's in a name?

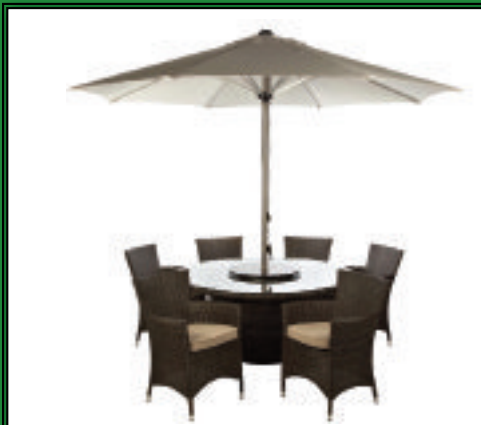
THE knee-jerk reaction is to resist change and criticise. But Kent County Cricket Club's decision to accept a naming rights deal for its St Lawrence Ground is just sound commercial sense in this day and age.

So don't let your blood pressure rise as a result. After all, it's only a name, and if you don't like it, just stick to the original. Simple.

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Above the Channel Tunnel, Castle Hill, Folkestone
by Kevin Mudge-Wood



Images of Kent

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Huge benefits of 20mph limit

TERRY Hudson suggests that people who call for 20mph speed limits are trying to "deny (people) mobility" (Letters, KoS, May 19).

On the contrary, we are trying to save people's lives.

The UK's roads are among the safest in the world, but the average death toll is still just over five people every day.

A 20mph speed limit on residential roads would add just a minute or two to journeys, as most driving is on A roads and motorways.

By contrast, the benefits would be enormous: fewer deaths, fewer and less serious injuries, less noise and a more pleasant environment so adults and children would be more likely to walk and cycle,

and neighbours would be more able to stop and chat.

Richard Mountford, Hildenborough

Time for an adult debate

DAVID Cameron has only published legislation on an EU referendum because of campaigning by his own unruly backbenchers.

However, ultimately, it is right to give people a say on the UK remaining in the European Union.

The EU is far from perfect. All too often it serves the interests of business, rather than people and in some policy areas power should be devolved.

But, on balance, it is a positive force. Its legislation is vital in protecting workers' rights, improving our environment and regulating

our banking sector. It brings countries together to work on cross border issues. Research by Friends of the Earth shows us that without EU action we'd have dirtier beaches, more polluted rivers and higher levels of air pollution.

The time has come for us to cut through Europhobia and have an adult debate about our place in the EU.

Stuart Jeffrey, Chair, Kent Green Party

Beauty needs protecting

I always believed the Thames Estuary airport idea was a non-starter. Now it seems no-one, not even the MPs, want it.

Where Boris Johnson gets these ideas, I will never know. The Garden of England is beautiful – let's keep it so.

Robert Standing, Meopham

End barbaric live exports

I am writing in response to the articles about the live export of animals. I am 65 and this disgusting and barbaric act has been going on for as long as I can remember.

Nothing has changed, only the stopping of live horses which was one relief, although even that could return if the High Court sanctions it.

Everything has moved forward except for the welfare of animals, which is mostly because of a greed for money.

It is so much cheaper to cram living animals into lorries for hours without water, instead of humanely putting an end to their lives over here and sending the meat abroad in freezer lorries.

This country has changed

for the worse, especially where animals are concerned, and it is sad that everything is about saving money instead of the welfare of living things.

Jenny Payne, Sittingbourne

A21 is for road users to fix

I read the article by Tunbridge Wells MP Greg Clark in your paper recently, putting the case for dualing the A21.

There is also a case for not increasing its capacity.

The main objection remains that more traffic would be attracted into Tunbridge Wells causing congestion and poor air quality in the town.

The A26 is at capacity, there would be no benefit, other than a brief dip when the A21 opens. Even if many cars take another route into town more cars would use this road.

Road safety is quoted, but the A21 at Castle Hill had a notably good safety record in the past – fatalities have only increased since the large roundabout was built at the end of Longfield Road.

Additionally, the needs of the North Farm Industrial Estate may conflict with traffic concerns in Sherwood.

If this road scheme were not approved environmental issues might be blamed, but this would be a mistake. For two decades it has been understood that predict and provide is dead in road building. You have to study the problems.

So the message is, we road users are the problem and we complain and then eventually we have to do something different ourselves.

Andrew H Lohmann, Tunbridge Wells

Gay marriage and EU are bad

IN response to Dr Alan Bullion (Letters, KoS, May 19).

Alas Dr Bullion regarding your 'close analysis' of Ukip, you failed to recognise the truth. You say Ukip has "an unhealthy obsession with opposing the EU, immigration and gay marriage". Where have you been hiding lately?

The public are awakening to the truth of what has happened. They want the right to govern themselves under their own laws, of course they oppose the dictatorial EU.

They are now realising that these powers and freedoms were stolen by stealth and lies.

Uncontrolled immigration is an issue that needs to be faced. This is not racism – it is fact.

People from all continents want to come here. We are already the most populated country in Europe, how long would those of the same opinion as Dr Bullion allow this to continue? Look at the map, we are a small set of precious, green islands with a large population.

Acres of good farm and woodland are to be concreted over. This is irresponsible madness. It has to stop.

Regarding the 'issue' of gay marriage. Marriage is between a man and a woman for the procreation and nurture of families. This is true for most civilisations across the world.

Civil partnerships are available, be happy.

June Moore, Tunbridge Wells

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Publisher: Simon Irwin
Editor: Chris Britcher
Address: Apple Barn, Smeeth, Kent TN25 6SS
Editorial: Telephone 01303 817100;
Fax 01303 817002;
Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk
Advertising:
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Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards 2013 Nomination Form

Nominate your Kent food heroes by using this form or enter online at kentnews.co.uk

Please post your entry form to Steph Drury, Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards, 28 Teville Road, Worthing, West Sussex BN11 1UG or for more details call her on 01903 703736. You can also nominate online at www.kentnews.co.uk Closing date is Friday, August 30, 2013

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Who?

Where?

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Why?

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BUTCHER OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Porsche Centre, Tonbridge

Who?

Where?

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TEA SHOP OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Audley Mote House

Who?

Where?

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Why?

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INDEPENDENT RETAILER OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by The Old Mill

Who?

Where?

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Why?

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BEST FARM SHOP

Sponsored by Waggon at Hale

Who?

Where?

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Why?

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BEST FOOD OR DRINK PRODUCER

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Who?

Where?

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Why?

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BEST FAMILY DINING VENUE

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Who?

Where?

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Why?

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Who?

Where?

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Why?

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Who?

Where?

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Why?

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BEST RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Romney Marsh Fish Market

Who?

Where?

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Why?

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BEST CHEF OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Swans Kitchens & Bathrooms

Who?

Where?

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Who?

Where?

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We are delighted to be able to bring you the very first **Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards**

THE Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards will take place at Tudor Park Hotel on Thursday, November 14, 2013, from 6.30pm to midnight.

These brand-new awards are designed to champion, highlight and offer a showcase to the good and the great from the county's food and drink industry, including local producers and suppliers, small farming businesses, chefs, restaurants, pubs and hoteliers – people who care about the countryside and the future of our local environment.

The companies nominated will all voted for by you, our readers. We want to know if you've received a fantastic meal at your local pub or have been impressed by the produce and service at your farmers' market or farm shop.

Entry forms are available opposite and online at www.kentnews.co.uk.

Entries close on Friday, August 30, 2013.

Our panel of judges will then select a shortlist, kickstarting the independent judging process where finalists will be visited or interviewed to determine a worthy winner in each category.

All finalists will be invited to the prestigious awards ceremony in November, where they will enjoy a Champagne reception and three-course meal based on locally sourced produce before finding out if they are a winner.

This is the first Kent Life & Kent on Sunday Food & Drink Awards and we are immensely proud to be able to offer you the chance to reward and recognise the deserving businesses

within our local food and drink industry, the ones that consistently go above and beyond expectations.

These awards are what you make of them so if you are the owner of a restaurant, a budding chef or local producer then help to spread the word among your clients and visitors. With our online voting system up and running, it takes no time at all to cast your vote.

The judging panel is looking for quality over quantity; focusing on good comments rather than number of votes, so everybody is in with a chance no matter how big or small your business is.

Event Partner:



NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR



This popular category is open to anyone in the food or drink business who has started a new venture within the last 18 months. It could be any food and drink business but we want to know what impact they have made on the local community and whether they have started to achieve any success further afield. Are they helping to promote Kent food and drink to a new audience? Tell us who has impressed you.

BUTCHER OF THE YEAR

Porsche Centre Tonbridge

This category is here for one reason and that is to praise our many local butchers and everything they do for Kent. Consider asking your butcher how their meat is hung, prepared and cut and whether it can be traced to a local farm. Are the staff knowledgeable and helpful? Does the butcher play a key role within the local community? If so, nominate them.

BEST TEA SHOP OF THE YEAR



We recognise that tea shops are an integral part of the Kent food and drink scene and we'd like to know your favourites. Who makes the best tea, serves the nicest cakes and the freshest scones? Is the jam home made and are the sandwiches freshly cut and liberally filled? Most importantly, are most of the ingredients locally sourced? We're looking forward to hearing about your favourites.

INDEPENDENT RETAILER OF THE YEAR



This category acknowledges the hard work Kent's independent food and drink retailers put into giving their customers the best possible experience in-store, reinforcing their role at the heart of the community and showing true innovation with their displays. We are looking for independent retailers who put local and seasonal at the heart of the food and drink experience and who are proud to work with and support the best the Garden of England can offer.

BEST FARM SHOP



Just like our Farmers' Markets, a good farm shop needs to have that extra-special something to tempt shoppers away from their local supermarket. Are the staff friendly and knowledgeable, is the range of produce and the layout of an excellent standard, does your local farm shop offer a box scheme? Is most of the produce sold there grown or raised on that farm, or nearby and if not would the owner be able to tell you where it is from?

BEST FOOD OR DRINK PRODUCER



This category celebrates our local suppliers and producers who play such a vital role in the food community. We are looking for someone who consistently provides a reliable quality of products and services to their customers. So whether it's your local bakery, drinks merchant or meat producer, we want to know why this person or business goes the extra mile for you and gets your vote.

BEST FAMILY DINING VENUE



We've all experienced that sinking feeling when you go out for a meal with the family and you know almost immediately the proprietors and staff would have preferred you to have left the kids at home. We want to know about the exact opposite, those establishments that welcome and treat with respect your whole party, from elderly to very young, and ideally don't banish you too an outer

AWARDS CRITERIA

room away from the main dining area. Do they have high-quality menus that suit every age group, provide high chairs if needed, offer useful distractions such as paper and crayons for younger children to use at the table? Is there a children's play area and good baby-changing facilities in the toilets? And most importantly is the food of an excellent standard and worthy of mum and dad as well as the younger members of the party? Tell us all about your best family dining experience in Kent.

BEST PUB OF THE YEAR



Combining country pubs and dining pubs, the whole eating-out experience needs to be taken into account in this category. Customer service, value for money and the quality of the food should all be accounted for. How well does the establishment you recommend use and name local suppliers and seasonal produce throughout its menus? Neighbourhood pubs are at the heart of the local community and this category is your chance to give something back for all the enjoyment they give you. Are the staff friendly and welcoming, even if it isn't your local? Are there local ales, juices, wines and ciders available to purchase and if so, are they proudly on display? Also, note the quality and speed of the service, the overall atmosphere and ambience, both inside and outside in the beer garden.

BEST FARMER'S MARKET



The key to a good Farmers' Market is not only the range of produce and the quality of its stalls but also the principles that it supports – for example, does it work as a co-operative with other farmers, is most of the produce sold there grown or raised locally? Are the stallholders welcoming and knowledgeable and is the layout easy to navigate as you move around the market? Are any extras offered on a regular basis, such as cookery demonstrations or talks, is it well advertised so you can plan your visit in advance, is there good accessibility and parking?

RESTAURANT OF THE YEAR



We suspect that this category will be one of our most coveted awards, as the Kent Life and Kent on Sunday Restaurant of the Year needs to offer an incomparable dining experience, from the ambience to the service and most importantly the food. Is it locally sourced and does it change with the seasons? Does chef support local producers and are they recognised on the menu? Look through the wine list, are there local as well as international wines and sparkling wines and can the staff tell you more if you ask? We'd expect nothing less from our Restaurant of the Year.

CHEF OF THE YEAR



Kent is blessed with outstanding chefs working in the county's fantastic array of restaurants. The Chef of the Year should be someone who has devoted him or herself to the cause of serving the best possible food. They will demonstrate technical ability, use of seasonal ingredients, presentation of the food and an understanding of how flavours work together. They will be able to lead and inspire their team and to talk to customers knowledgeably about the dishes they have enjoyed. Above all, we are looking for passion – that magic ingredient that defines true greatness in the kitchen.

BEST KENT FOOD AND DRINK HERO



Kent has a food and drink scene that is more vibrant than many others across the UK. This category celebrates the individual who has made the most impact on the food or drink community – someone who goes the extra mile to promote Kent to a wider audience and is passionate about local produce throughout. Now is your chance to nominate your own Kent food and drink hero.

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(T&C's below)**LISA** blonde, blue eyes, looking for male, 42-54, fun and romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404877** ☺**LADY** 57, away with the fairies, looking for her wizard and enchantment. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403093****ANGELA**, adventurous beauty seeks discreet man for pleasing times. Age/looks unimportant. **ACA, Tel No: 0905 002 1956 Box No: 355761****LIZ** blonde blue eyed curvy female, considered attractive, tactile, sensual, enjoys music, entertaining, nice people, seeking well educated professional 50-60yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402773** ☺**JO** 29 tall slim female who loves soaps, animals, shopping, being a mum and am looking for 40's male with GSOH who will appreciate a tactile, loving female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402765** ☺**52YR** old female, single mum of 2, seeking honest, caring, decent man. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398991** ☺**FEMALE** young 60, petite, outgoing, sociable, looking for someone special to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403423** ☺**NICKY** 45, 5ft 2ins, blue eyes, blonde hair, looking for genuine male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 399774** ☺**LISA** 44, blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft 6ins, nice personality, trustworthy, kind, likes cinema, nights in, walks, music, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404751** ☺**CAROLINE** 60, 5ft 2ins, likes animals, walks, travel, gardening, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402067****59YR** old Kent lady, bubbly, large build, dog lover, easy-going, GSOH, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403071** ☺**YOU** can't have everything in life but you can have some fun with Katerina, sexy busty figured lady. If you are discreet call now. **ACA, Tel No: 0905 002 1957 Box No: 347317****JAYNE** 44 bored, underappreciated pretty blue eyed intelligent lady seeking fun and interesting professional in similar situation to me for discreet fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403011** ☺**TO REPLY TO ADS WITH ☺ TEXT THE BOX NUMBER TO SHORT CODE 63222. i.e. TEXT: 123456 to short code 63222****CLAIRE** looking for adventurous male to live life to the max and enjoy adult fun times with. Go on give me a call. Any age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402993** ☺**GILL** 41, shy, lonely single country loving female with no ties, OHAC WLTm n/s genuine, confident male companion for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402799** ☺**AMANDA** 56yr old single female, blue eyes, curvy, really pretty with lovely smile, loves music, nights out, WLTm loving male for dates and hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402787** ☺**SHIRLEY** 32 attractive nurse, enjoys good food/wine, keeping fit, looking good, searching for non committed relations with mature well-dressed man. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402779** ☺**DOG** lover short of British slim petite lady to maybe get into 1-2-1 relationship and start something new. Smoker welcome, age immaterial. Unbridge Wells area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404417** ☺**MALE** 48, 5ft 10ins, medium build, likes gardening, cinema, reading, WLTm lady, Thanet area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404295****LYN** happy, young looking 72yr old, seeking interesting man, 65 plus to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403101****COUNTRY** loving outgoing female, blue eyes, 5ft 2ins, genuine, caring, intelligent, seeks honourable, smart, professional male, 68-75 to share laughter and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392899****SINGLE** mum, new to Canterbury, 37, attractive, blonde, seeking soul mate, preferably with car. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397751** ☺**60YR** old black female, sociable, seeks romantic, articulate white male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402523** ☺**DIVORCED** female, 66, blue eyes, 5ft 4ins, medium build, blonde hair, seeks male, 65-75 for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403275** ☺**21YR** old slim figured female, no ties, looking for male 30-45yrs for non committed relationship, discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402761** ☺**CHRIS** petite attractive brunette, enjoys social drinks, meals out, theatre, seeks hardworking professional male looking for adult attention too. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402759** ☺**LISA** 5ft 2ins, 43, average build plus a few pounds, blonde hair, blue eyes, looking for man for dates. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401421** ☺

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5FT female, brown hair, 39, single mum, seeks caring, dedicated guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397915** ☺**JOYCE** 82, widow, seeking man who is fun loving and good humoured for meals out, 60-70's. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393067****LINDA** young 62, smoker, seeking gent, 55-65 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400521** ☺**SINGLE** mum, 35, white British, 5ft 2ins, varied interests, looking for male to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 400329** ☺**REBECCA** kind, caring, honest, lonely, seeking older gent to wine and dine me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402273** ☺**DANCE** partner sought by lady beginner in ballroom and Latin American dancing. Ideally 55 plus, to visit local dances for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401333****FEMALE** seeks Prince Charming, 20-30, sweep her off her feet. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392891** ☺**ANNA** very lonely divorced single mum with lots of love to give seeks similar caring male who also wants to find the similar person, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403481** ☺**LISA** 39yr old tall slim blonde with GSOH and a wicked sense of humour, employed, OHAC, looking for similar man and enjoys life as much as I do. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403391** ☺**47YR** old female, fun loving, green eyes, likes most things, seeks N/S male, 47-52 with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401287** ☺**DELILAH** 49, likes animals, blonde, blue eyes, seeking older gent, late 70's who is kind and willing to care about me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403769** ☺**SUSIE** young 55, slim, 5ft 3ins, seeks tall, honest guy from Medway towns. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398027** ☺**JAN** 54, petite, seeks male, 48-58 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394382** ☺**45YR** old female, 5ft 5ins, brown hair, cuddly, curvaceous, love animals, music, sports, seeks kind, caring, sincere, mature male, 40 plus with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381319** ☺**JACQUELINE** 82, widow, car driver, not slim, ugly or neurotic, seeks interesting, caring gent, 70 plus for talk and company. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403659****BEV** very attractive lady who loves cosy nights in, seeks caring man who can put the spring back in my step and twinkle back in my eye, call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403353** ☺**SHAY** 39 looking for fun loving male to brighten up my world! There must be someone out there prepared to take on a feisty attractive professional with OHAC, money in the bank and a great body! **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403341** ☺**JACQUELINE** widow, 82, easy-going, not ugly or neurotic, good listener, caring, loyal, seeks gent, 60-80 for conversation, company and outings. Sevenoaks, car driver. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403397****DEBBIE** 50, seeking man, 60 plus with GSOH for fun nights out and cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 398173** ☺**LYN** 59, slim, fair, looking for someone to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 397347** ☺

Men Seeking

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(T&C's below)**KEVIN** 50 6ft average build, kind, caring, GSOH, black hair, hazel eyes, various interests, seeks female 35-55 for friendship/romance. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405087** ☺**VIC** mid 60's medium build male, active, N/S, likes countryside, DIY, seeks compatible female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405095** ☺**CHRIS** from Folkestone, 68yrs young widower, N/S, 5ft 9ins, OHAC, likes country music, rock n roll, WLTm N/S female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 405079** ☺**FUN** fit, 60yr old male, seeks older, well built female for no strings discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404971** ☺**BRUCE** likes meals out, romantic walks, days out, seeking lady, 40-60 for friendship and fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403097** ☺**THANET** male, young mid 60's, caring, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, likes travel, countryside, seeks slim, attractive local soul mate. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403729** ☺**PROFESSIONAL** male, early 40's, OHAC, independent, seeks warm, sincere, fun loving female for LTR. Children/animals welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404537** ☺**SHARON** 37yr old size 10 attractive feminine blonde, divorced with OHAC, seeks nice male who like me is fed up with being on their own. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403351** ☺**KATHY** genuine good/young looking lonely female, fit with good figure, seeking man to fall in love with, enjoy adult companionship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403349** ☺**VICKY** petite size 16, attractive, caring, genuine and very much single, likes varied interests, WLTm kind genuine N/S male 40-55yrs for dates hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403343** ☺**LOUISE** blue eyed pretty brunette, size 12, OHAC, professional, enjoys good conversation, looking for someone to make me happy again. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403335** ☺**BLACK** African lady, late 30's, no ties, likes country walks, gardening, cinema, seaside, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393272****MARGARET** 57, looking for male companionship with GSOH for nights out, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390248** ☺**MARY** 62, fun loving, enjoy most things, 5ft 5ins, dark hair, green eyes, size 14, lives alone in country, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 385189****MICHAEL** slim, 44, likes CD, films, seeks older male 55 plus for fun times in the Thanet area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404373****PAUL** 49 5ft 8ins likes eating/nights in/out seeks loving female for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404013** ☺**CHRIS** 68, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271** ☺**70YRS** young male, good looking, GSOH, seeking lady for love and affection. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403455****RONALD** 65 plus, 5ft 9ins, slim, sociable, GSOH, tactile, N/S, many interests, seeking lady dance partner to learn ballroom and Latin. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403211** ☺**ACTIVE** 60's semi-retired man, OHAC, GSOH, enjoys theatre, dancing, singing, amateur dramatics, coast, gardening etc, WLTm N/S female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404671** ☺**RETIRED** male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589** ☺**EDDIE** African male, seeking female, 20-40 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394354****RETIRED** male 68, 5ft 8ins, considerate, GSOH, easy-going, likes driving, shopping, most music, seeking lady 60-70 for friendship. Ashford. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404589** ☺**BUILDER** 43, tall, good looking, kind, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401595****40** something Gemini 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, varied outdoor interests, seeks similar outgoing female, 30-45 for dates and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404535** ☺**TED** 63, 5ft 7ins, average build, seeks female 55-75 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401913** ☺**DENNIS** 53yrs retired police officer living in Kent, WLTm female for mutual fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404201** ☺**GARDENER** 50, 6ft, honest, happy, single, fit gardener seeks attractive younger lady for fun NSA nights in, weekends away country walks, picnics and good conversation. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404115** ☺**SWANSEA** male, 51, 5ft 6ins, slim, seeks slim female for nights in/out, company, walks, talks and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402033****PRETTY** petite lady sought by older, professional businessman, looking for LTR and loyalty. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394530** ☺**SALVATORE** 68, N/S, widow, Italian, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402481** ☺**KEVIN** 49, single dad, employed, good cook/laugh, seeks female for fun and good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402405** ☺**CHRIS** 58, 5ft 9ins, 13st, frustrated widower, likes country/western music, real ale, gardening, cruises, looking for LTR and loyalty. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402271** ☺**ANDY** 36, sexy, fun, come say hello. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402903****BLACK** male, 50, bubbly personality, seeks buxom, pear shaped, rubinesque white female, 25-55 for friendship, possible LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402887****PETE** 55, good looking, 6ft 2ins, own hair, seeking attractive female, 45-60 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394294** ☺**GENUINE** fun loving guy 55, medium build, blue eyes, seeks genuine lady, 45-57 for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401761** ☺**GRAHAM** 52, N/S, likes days out, antique fairs, animals, seeks slim, attractive, N/S lady, 40-50 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401727****KIND**, considerate, easygoing, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401595****TALL** 64yr old young at heart N/S male, widower, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401531** ☺**TONY** retired, GSOH, likes indoor life, dvds, seeking N/S lady, 65 plus, likes countryside for friendship. West Sussex area. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 401481****TONY** 50, likes nights in/out, football, fishing, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394506** ☺**BRIAN** fun loving, happy go lucky, likes walks, animals, cuddles, nights in/out, seeking loving, caring female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402729** ☺**IF YOU'RE** LOOKING to connect and chat with other men look no further TXT: **GAY601** to 60109 for 3 chat matches, fun and safe service. (T&C's below)**Go online - www.localgay-date.co.uk****BI** guy, CD, 57, OHAC, seeking similar for mutual fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 404907** ☺**EASY-GOING** guy, medium build, likes outdoors, DIY, seeking slim, N/S guy for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 403267** ☺**BI** male, senior, clean-shaven, Maidstone area, seeks bi male. N/S for occasional meets, must be discreet, 45-55. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402393****DAVID** 66, retired, fit, looking for man, 50-75 for daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402249** ☺**STEVEN** 63, looking for LTR with man, 59 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402147****BI** guy 45, seeking similar bi guy for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 402093** ☺

MEN TEXT FOR FUN!

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WOMEN TEXT FOR FUN!

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By **JOE BILL**

AS one of the most recognisable faces on British television, Phill Jupitus has a back catalogue of comedy that could rival any other.

And after 17 years fronting a team on the BBC's flagship music quiz *Never Mind The Buzzcocks*, the comedian is getting back to his roots and creating new work.

His latest show, a three-part improvisational piece dictated by the audience, played live in Maidstone recently and *KoS* caught up with the star to talk about his tour and his love of Kent.

The 50-year-old said: "I'm down in Kent loads. I am down here all the time, it's great. Some of my best mates live in Whitstable as well. You have got Harry Hill living down there and Johnny Green, the former *Clash* roadie, lives there, too, so I love spending time there.

"My kids are both at the University of Kent in Canterbury, too.

"My eldest is in her final year studying social anthropology and my youngest is doing drama, which is the course

Phill's improvising on life

The comedy legend looks back on his future

that one of my former colleagues, Ollie Double the stand-up, runs."

Jupitus sold out at the Edinburgh Festival last year with the show *You're Probably Wondering Why I've Asked You Here*, and his continued touring suggests it is not dipping in popularity.

He said: "It's an improvised comedy show. I always loved *Who's Line Is It Anyway?* for the mental agility of the performers who did it – the way they would take things on board and play around with them. I always really admired that. Luckily enough, I got to perform with the creators, the Comedy Store Players, with the likes of Paul Merton and Josie Lawrence, and I get to work with them quite regularly.

"I just wondered if there was a way of doing it as a solo performer."

Jupitus tried out his idea at the Alternative Comedy Memorial Society gig last year and a half-hour set gave him the confidence to take it to Edinburgh.

"The acts were all very out of leftfield and I couldn't just get up and do jokes as usual. So I went on stage and said 'I'm the late Phill Jupitus. I died in the year 2050 and I can answer any questions that you have, but only between

now and my death', so it was all questions about my future. And it kind of just flew by – it went really well and I ended up doing half an hour."

The idea was developed into three characters who Jupitus plays on stage, answering questions from the crowd.

'There are no lifetime jobs any more, unless you do the weather'

"They always die the same way, but that's it. Your stand-up instincts will always make you go back to a tried and trusted joke, but I'm fighting against that to keep it fresh at every venue."

Jupitus will return to Edinburgh again this year in three shows, including the return of his infamous 80s character *Porky the Poet*.

The funnyman is not only well respected as a stand-up – his musical knowledge and DJ skills have seen him light up the airwaves at the BBC and his appearance as a talking head on any music documentary lends it an air of authority.

He has his finger on the pulse of new music – he saw a young punk band from Leeds called the *Cyanide Pills* play last week – but his true musical passions lie in the past, with his 'last gig before you die' option easily decided.

"The *Clash*. Sorry to cut you off. But if I could I'd see the original line-up of *The Clash* live. That can't happen sadly, but that would have been it."

With series number 27 possibly on the horizon, the only remaining original cast member of *Never Mind The Buzzcocks* is clear about whom he would pick to replace the much-missed former presenter Simon Amstell.

"You know who I would love to do it – Adam Buxton. Me and Noel [Fielding] both loved Buxton doing it. When Buxton came along with a hatful of ideas, it was brilliant.

"But the Beeb aren't going to go for that. They will want one of your young, firebrand comedians, a Jack Whitehall or someone like that."

And Jupitus, who is often paired with crazy comedians and mad musicians on his team, instantly knew which guest made the biggest impression.

"Donny Tourette [from *The Towers of London*] – he was great, but it was weird because he was a very insecure boy, really.

"There was all that bluff of him sticking his fingers up and being punk-rock and all that, but there was a moment where he kept attacking Bill Bailey for some reason. And that's like trying to beat up a kitten.

"He was sticking it to Bill, but Bill is a professional comedian and has been for many years and so was shooting Donny down constantly and the whole room was laughing at him.

"Then someone else chipped in having a go at Donny and then there was just a pause... and he leant over to me and said '***** hell, I'm the youngest of four brothers – this is like being back at home again'. And that was so telling, my heart went out to him."

He has played leading roles in the West End, he has headlined comedy festivals and he has provided hours of entertainment around the world as a BBC DJ, but Jupitus is not resting on his laurels and the possible return of his beloved panel show represents just another opportunity rather than a chore.

"I saw some of the production team last week and they think there is going to be a new series, but nothing is confirmed yet. That's just the nature of broadcasting now.

"There are no lifetime jobs any more, unless you do the weather."



Features team

Editor: **Dave Mairs**
dave.mairs@archant.co.uk
Tel: 01303 817022

Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk
Tel: 01303 817048



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YOUR WEEKEND

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Vineyard sparkles with international success

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

ON the edge of the village of Appledore lies a quiet and almost hidden spot where almost 10 years ago a South African started planting his vineyard by hand.

Now the fruits of Andrew Weeber's labours are being realised, with his grapes this week recognised as some of the best in the world.

Gusbourne Estate's 50-acre vineyard was only planted in 2004, and harvested three years later, and now it has a gold award from the International Wine and Spirit Competition for its 2008 Brut Reserve.

A former orthopaedic surgeon, Weeber said: "We're thrilled by the medal and delighted to dedicate it to the team of grape-pickers who turn out in all weathers to bring in the harvest.

"Ultimately we are a family business and one that is totally committed to the community at all levels. We are proudly English and, moreover, we are proudly Kentish. I dedicate the award to our 60 or so pickers, who do an amazing job."

Every September a group of some 60 villagers helps with the harvesting of the 160 tons of grapes, which are then turned into bubbly at Ridgeview in East Sussex.

Rita Everett, 71, who has been taking part in the two-week harvest for five years, said: "We're just like one big family – it's a great opportunity to meet up with friends and chat," she said. "To know that grapes we picked were served at Buckingham Palace for the Queen's Olympic banquet makes it all worthwhile.

"Most of us are pensioners – I think they tried students, but they weren't reliable. You ache on the second day, but you soon get used to it.

"We get to taste it, although I'm not much of a connoisseur."

Vineyard manager John Pollard has been with the project from the start. Having previously worked in agriculture, he moved to work for wine wholesaler Majestic in London before taking up a course at Plumpton College, East Sussex, which specialises in all things wine and business.

He said the South East had perfect conditions for growing grapes and the site itself had a gentle south-facing slope, meaning it soaked up all the sun it needed.

"This corner of England has got really good



GOLD MEDAL:
Andrew Weeber
only began planting
his vineyard less
than ten years ago

sunshine and really good temperatures, which is reasonably reliable," he said. "One of the biggest factors is we haven't got as much disease. Fungal diseases can be a problem – it can be a constant thing trying to keep them clean.

"We're only 30 metres above sea level, so the prevailing south-westerly winds coming through the vineyard keep it dry. The sea being so close does help as it has a warming effect."

He feels there is a growing realisation that England can challenge the big names when it comes to sparkling wine, with more interest being paid from interested foreigners.

"It's a slow process – the awareness is increasing," said the 37-year-old. "It's a good idea if you can establish a number of vines and you can process the wine yourself.

"Since I have been in the industry I've seen an

increase in the technical skills coming into it. There are a lot of younger people coming through – a lot of that is to do with courses at places like Plumpton College in East Sussex.

"The quality produced is making people coming over, like South Africans, Kiwis and Australians, think it's worthwhile."

Winning the awards has certainly made the hard work of the first few years worthwhile.

"We had a really good year last year. We are very lucky – we have a very good site for the vineyards and get really good-quality grapes," he said. "The vines we have planted will be there for another 35 years. For other people to come into the industry the biggest thing is having the right land to plant on.

"We worked those first three years and harvested the fruit and it has come good – a few

years later we see them winning awards. It's great.

"It's nice to keep the French on their toes – we wouldn't want them to get complacent."

The Gusbourne sparkling wine, priced at £24.99 a bottle, was described by judges as having "the aromas of hazelnut and toast" with an "underlying delicate redcurrant fruit and a hint of rose". They said it had a "creamy fresh acidity, giving impeccable balance with a long savoury finish".

The wine passed through two stages of judging. First there was a professional blind tasting, then came a detailed chemical and microbiological analysis.

More than 300 wine specialists travel from around the world to the IWSC tasting rooms to judge the wines. The judges comprise a mixture of Masters of Wine, winemakers, trade specialists, journalists and sommeliers.



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2 ANNOUNCEMENTS !

- 1) *We can confirm that we will be opening another fresh food restaurant in the Ashford area this summer!*
- 2) *And as we dearly loved Marchants of Bethersden so much....we bought it and all the award winning recipes and by all reports the sausages and meats are at least as good as ever!*

So the good news is, that following the major refurbishment, early this year -we are still serving the same high quality steaks, sausages, burgers, pies and even lobsters and fresh fish direct to you at better than supermarket prices, as well as continuing with our refrigerated delivery service and whats more we have just been awarded five stars from ASHFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL!



MAY DAY

Ramble and Ride – it's the only way to travel for the best possible time in Sittingbourne

SITTINGBOURNE'S steam railway operates between the former paper mill at Sittingbourne (now Morrisons) and the active mill at Kemsley, just under two miles away.

The 15-minute journey from Sittingbourne Viaduct station takes you over Milton Regis viaduct, 98 years old and about a kilometre in length, before crossing Milton Creek country park to Kemsley Down.

Here you will find the shop, café, museum, picnic areas, engine shed and more.

As part of the North Kent Walking

Festival, the railway is teaming up with the Friends Of Milton Creek Country Park to offer Ramble & Ride guided tours of both the country park and the railway on Sunday and Monday, May 26-27.

Guided walks will depart Sittingbourne Viaduct station at 11am and 1pm or Kemsley Down at 2pm.

Single fares apply for the train and the two-hour guided walk is free. Trains will depart Sittingbourne Viaduct hourly from 11am until 4pm.

At Kemsley Down you will get the chance to look behind the scenes of the railway with a guided tour of the engine

shed and sidings. The railway aims to be a cheap, family-friendly day out, with return fares costing £5.50 for adults, £4 for concessions, £3 for children (aged three to 13) and £16 for families (two adults and up to four children).

Single fares are priced at £3.50 for adults and £2.50 for children and concessions – there is no family single fare. Trains run every Sunday in June, departing Sittingbourne Viaduct hourly between 1pm and 4pm.

For timetables, visit Sittingbourne Library, download from www.sklr.net or phone 01795 424899.



Victory will be yours if you join Winston Churchill on the Romney, Hythe and Dymchurch Railway

AFTER a hugely successful relaunch of locomotive No.9, Winston Churchill, following its overhaul and the annual Steam & Diesel Gala, Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway is now looking forward to four fantastic special events, leading up to the peak summer service starting on Thursday, July 25.

Toys and Trains family weekend fun, Saturday and Sunday, June 8-9

There will be a variety of miniature trains and traction engines at New Romney station providing free rides and demonstrations from 10am until 4pm. There will be trade stalls to browse.

Late Springtime Evening Dining Train, Saturday, June 8

Enjoy an early-evening journey across the picturesque Romney Marsh from Hythe to Dungeness aboard a special steam-hauled charter train. Then take your seat at your reserved table in the Light Railway Café for a delicious three-course meal.

Father's Day, Sunday, June 16

Once again this year all dads will have the opportunity to drive one of the railway's world-famous steam engines (on a first-come-first-served basis).

Or how about buying a ride on the footplate for him? This must be pre-booked.

A full Sunday roast and locally-brewed beer will be served.

Late afternoon/evening heritage tour, Saturday, July 13

Enjoy a nostalgic and revealing insight into the railway's history and the characters that have helped shape this unique Mainline in Miniature. This very special event includes a guided tour of New Romney station, a buffet tea and a guided heritage tour by steam train.

The website www.rhdr.org.uk has all the details; alternatively, you can phone the sales team on 01797 362353 or email info@rhdr.org.uk.

Beautiful gardens, cream teas and all that jazz at the delightful Doddington Place Gardens

DODDINGTON PLACE GARDENS: Live Jazz In The Gardens, Sunday and Monday, May 26-27

VISIT Doddington Place Gardens this May Bank Holiday weekend and enjoy the beautiful 10-acre landscaped gardens with the venue's special promotion, valid until Sunday, June 30.

With a stunning woodland garden, formal lawns and terraces, and cascading yew hedges, the gardens are an oasis of peace and tranquillity and make a wonderful day out for all the family.

They are recognised as being of historical importance by English Heritage

and have been open in aid of the National Gardens Scheme for more than 50 years.

On Sunday and Monday, May 26-27, you will be able to enjoy the gardens with the mellow sounds of the live jazz band to accompany your visit – for a perfectly relaxing day out.

Special events are also run on selected days throughout the summer and include live jazz in the gardens again on Sunday, July 21, when a Kentish Food & Craft Fair will be taking place in the grounds, with many local food and crafts stalls to browse.

With bird-of-prey displays at 3pm on

Sundays and bank holidays, and a tea room serving delicious home-made cream teas, cakes and lunches, there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Adult tickets are priced at £5.50 each, but visitors will receive £1 per adult discount at the entrance on presentation of this promotional ticket.

The gardens are open to the public on Sundays, Wednesdays and bank holidays until Monday, September 30, from 11am to 5pm.

For more information, please visit www.doddingtonplacegardens.co.uk or phone 01795 886101.



Family fun and great food at The Red Lion as this traditional pub lays on two rather special events

THE Red Lion at Hernhill is a picturesque 14th-century pub in a small village near Faversham.

It offers a selection of traditional English food alongside the seasonal specials.

There are popular steak nights on Wednesdays and Thursdays, during which two eat for £26.95 including wine.

You will have two tender 9oz rump steaks cooked to your liking, served with chips, peas and fresh tomato.

You can choose from a bottle of crisp dry white or a mellow full-bodied red on the extensive wine list.

There is a pensioners' special every

Wednesday lunchtime, while the à la carte menu served daily from Monday to Saturday has a wide selection for all tastes, with many meals costing less than £10.

The Taste of Kent menu is served in the upstairs restaurant – all produce is sourced from within a two-mile radius of the pub, excluding the fish, which is landed at Ramsgate. This menu is available on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

On Bank Holiday Monday, May 27, there will be a hog roast, with music by Kameeleon from 3pm-5pm.

And on Sunday, July 7, visitors can enjoy the Brenda Irving Memorial Show in

aid of Pilgrims Hospice. There will be a human inflatable table game, gladiators game, tombola, coconut shy, barbecue, paella in the evening, fancy-dress for kids, pony rides and entertainment from 6pm with the band Coco. Details can be viewed at www.cairolodge.co.uk.

The opening hours are Saturday 11.30am to 11pm (food served from midday to 2.30pm and 6pm-9pm) and Sunday noon to 10.30pm (food noon to 8pm).

The Red Lion is at Church Hill, Hernhill, Faversham ME13 9JR. To learn more, visit www.theredlion.org, email enquiries@theredlion.org or phone 01227 751207.

YOUR WEEKEND

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Great expectations for festival

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

MORE than 60,000 people are expected to descend on Rochester next weekend when the Medway town transforms into a Dickensian wonderland for the summer festival celebrating arguably Britain's greatest writer.

Held every year since 1978, the Dickens Festival celebrates Medway's many associations with the great author Charles Dickens, who drew inspiration for some of his characters from the years in which he lived in the area.

The three-day festival, from Friday to Sunday, May 31-June 2, will see an array of colourful costumed characters parading through the high street every day, while there are many other family activities taking place.

One new feature for this year's event is the involvement of the 4th Battalion Royal Foot Artillery, which is being done to commemorate the fact that Dickens was born during the time of the Napoleonic wars and how it impacted on his imagination.

The Royal Foot Artillery will take part in parades through the streets and have an encampment in the moat of Rochester Castle, where there will be demonstrations and question-and-answer sessions with the public.

Howard Doe, Medway Council portfolio holder for community services, said: "We're very proud that so many places in Medway inspired one of the greatest writers of all time and that, more than 30 years on, the Rochester Dickens Festival



FAMILY FUN:

Three days of Dickensian characters, events and entertainment will fill Rochester with colour

still attracts many thousands of visitors from all over the country and around the world.

"Each year we aim to bring in some exciting new features as well as all the traditional favourites, and many events are free. So I hope everyone will come along and take part in this wonderful three days of celebration."

On Saturday evening there will be a special performance of *The Trials And Tribulations Of Mr Pickwick* at the Corn Exchange. The one-man comedy show tells how, through various misunderstandings, Mr Pickwick finds himself in the debtors' prison, meeting some of Dickens's most eccentric characters along the way.

There is a number of things for youngsters to enjoy, including Punch and Judy shows at the Guildhall Museum's forecourt, while they can play games with younger characters from Dick-

ens's novels in the Dickensian Family Fun area.

The Castle Gardens will be transformed into a traditional fun fair and craft fair, which will be bigger than ever before, with stalls selling handmade gifts, children's clothes, jewellery and more.

Visitors can climb aboard *The Edith May* sailing barge moored at The Esplanade and take an hour-long trip from Rochester Pier. There is also an incentive to dress up and get involved in the spirit of the event, with several costume competitions throughout the festival.

Visit www.whatsonmedway.co.uk for further information and to download a brochure.

Tickets for the Saturday-night performance are priced at £10, with concessions available, and are available from www.medwayticketlive.co.uk, by phoning 01634 338338 or in person from Medway Visitor Information Centre.



It's not too late to sign up for a float

THE deadline to enter a float in this year's Hythe Venetian Fete is fast approaching.

So far more than 20 businesses and youth, community, school, drama and social groups have signed up to take part in the decorated-float parade, but there is still room for more to enter before the deadline of Friday, May 31.

The event, on Wednesday, August 21, is organised by the not-for-profit Hythe Venetian Fete Society.

The society provides the floats, which are 16ft x 8ft, without charge. It also offers non-commercial entrants a grant of £150 to help with the construction costs.

The fete includes a five-hour programme of live entertainment and music.

For more information about entering, visit www.venetian-fete.com, email tgardenhouse@aol.com or call Mark Botting on 01303 269225.

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YOUR WEEKEND

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Plenty of fun-packed events sure to get you out and about during the half-term holidays

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

THE children are off school, there is a bank holiday coming... so take advantage of what is going on around the county in the week ahead.

Here is a brief guide if you're stuck, while there are plenty more things to look at on our website at www.kentnews.co.uk/leisure.

■ STEP back in time at Leeds Castle, where medieval jousting will be on display.

From Tuesday to Saturday, May 28-June 2, The Knights of Royal England will perform twice a day. New this year is the Hands on History jousting horse, which gives youngsters – and parents – the chance to dress up and have a go.

Other activities on offer include archery, while medieval crafts will be on show in a marquee. An additional charge is applied for these activities.

Tickets are priced at £21 for adults, £18.50 for seniors and visitors with disabilities (carer goes free) and £13.50 for children (under-fours free). Tickets are valid for 12 months, so you can pay once and visit all year round.

■ A HOST of wildlife activities is taking place at Dungeness National Nature Reserve, with guided walks and the 'stocktaking' of insects and bugs around the area.

- **Sunday, May 26:** Walk with an expert around the reserve, from 2pm-4pm. For adults.
- **Wednesday, May 29:** Minibeast stocktake for families; 11am-1pm and 2-4pm.
- **Thursday, May 30:** Guided walk for families around the reserve with an expert from 10.30am-12.30pm and 2pm-4pm.
- **Friday, May 31:** Find out what is living in the ponds in the stocktake – any time between 11am and 3pm.

Entry to the nature-reserve trail is free to RSPB members, while there is a small charge for non-members.

Booking is essential for the activities – phone 01797 320588 for more information.

■ TAKE advantage of a half-term offer at Kent & East Sussex Railway in Tenterden.

The attraction has launched a Kids For A Quid deal for Tuesday to Friday, May 28-31, and for an additional £1 your child can enjoy a hot meal with each adult meal bought.

To take advantage of the travel offer, families need to visit the railway's website, www.ksr.org.uk, and print off the railway voucher, which allows up to two children to travel for only £1 each with one full paying adult or senior citizen (£15 and £14 respectively per ticket).

For more information, visit www.ksr.org.uk or phone 01580 765155.

SONGSTRESS:
Dorothee Jansen

German opera star has the Manor for Mozart

INTERNATIONAL soprano singer Dorothee Jansen is performing an intimate gig at Eastwell Manor, near Ashford, next month.

The German artist will be performing Mozart's *The Marriage Of Figaro* on Wednesday, June 12, at the venue. This is a unique opportunity to see the much-loved opera performed from a female viewpoint.

She will be accompanied by Hanns Heinz Odenthal on violin and Haydn Rawstron on continuo and narration. The evening starts at 6.30pm with Champagne on the terrace.

Cost of the Champagne reception and performance is £35 per person, but to enjoy the evening in real style a four-course dinner with coffee and petit fours is being offered in the Manor Restaurant at £65 per person.

There is also a special rate of £75 per person for overnight accommodation with full English breakfast and use of the spa.

For more information, phone 01233 213020 or email reservations@eastwellmanor.co.uk.



GO GO GO! Speedy fun for children

Aspiring racers can just turn up and drive

BUCKMORE Park in Chatham, where Formula One stars Lewis Hamilton and Jenson Button learnt the ropes as youngsters, could be the perfect place to spend this half-term.

The award-winning circuit, just off junction 3 of the M2, is open on

Bank Holiday Monday, with visitors able to take advantage of the Turn Up And Drive sessions. Mums and dads can also race the circuit.

Also, during the half-term holidays, Turn Up And Drive sessions are available on Wednesday, May 29, and Friday,

May 31, for ages 4-16 and ages 4-11 from Saturday to Thursday, May 25-30. Prices start from £15 per session.

For more details, phone 01634 661612, visit www.buckmore4kids.co.uk or email sales@buckmore.co.uk.

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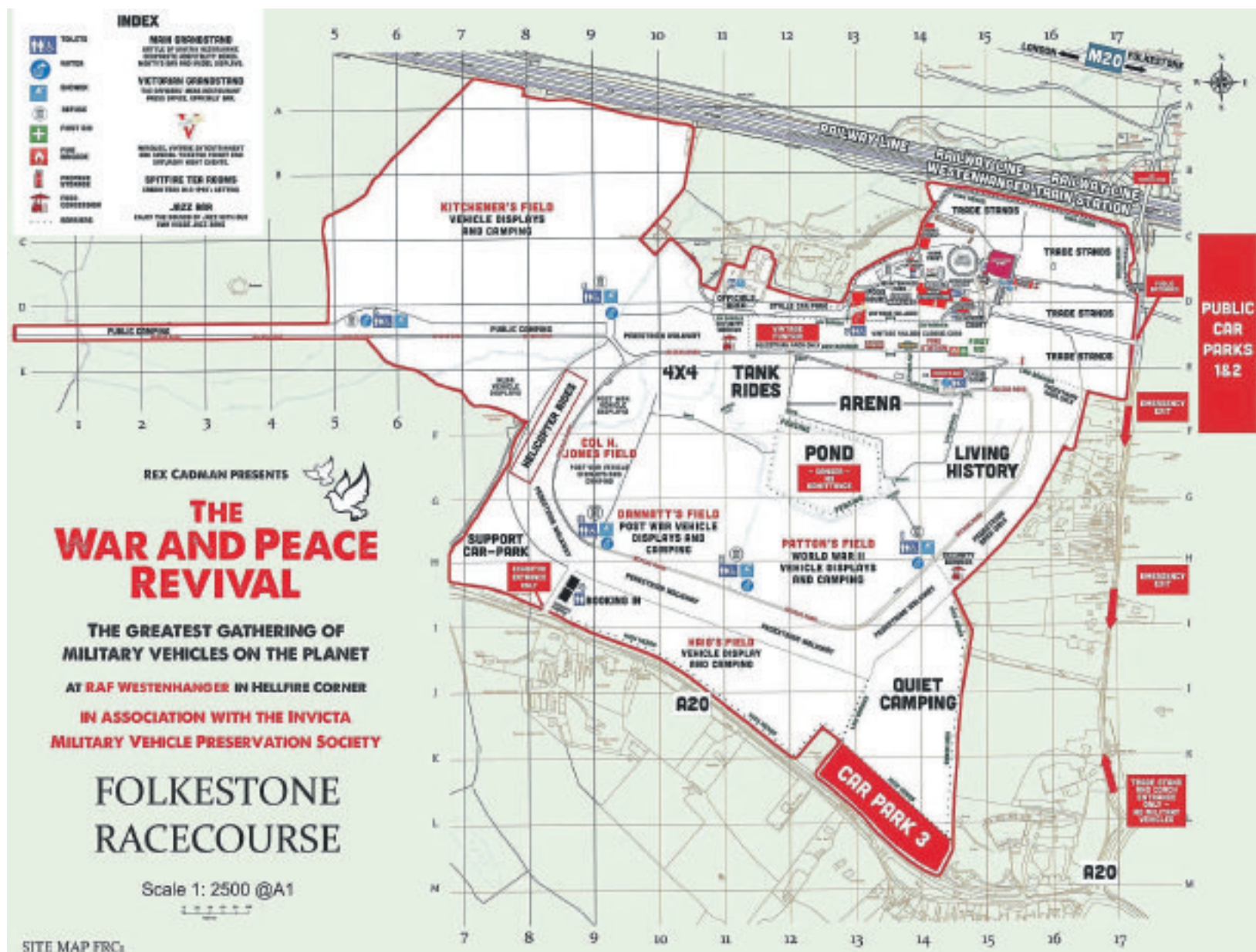
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A group of men in kilts and berets playing bagpipes. The men are wearing tan shirts, red and black kilts, and green berets. They are playing bagpipes and marching in a parade. The background shows a crowd of people and flags.



Come along and explore the world's



WAR AND PEACE REVIVAL SHOW



largest gathering of military vehicles

By Nick Ames

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

PREPARATIONS are now well under way for this summer's War and Peace Revival event, which has a new home at Folkestone Racecourse and is set to be more spectacular than ever.

The event will comprise the largest assembly of military vehicles anywhere in the world, as well as re-creations of battles focusing on the Second World War, fashions of the 1940s, music, static displays and food and drink.

Previously staged at The Hop Farm, Paddock Wood, organiser Rex Cadman says the site at Westenhanger, a one-time RAF base housing an Army liaison squadron, is ideal for the show as the area has so much military history.

"The area was known as Hellfire Corner in the war against Hitler's Germany, so we are very proud to make it our new venue," he said.

"The racecourse itself was even used as part of an elaborate plan to deceive the Germans into thinking the D-Day landing would be in the Calais area rather than Normandy.

"Dummy inflatable aircraft were placed there to make it look like an active base."

The event is set to attract some 100,000 spectators and it is hoped that it will give a boost to the south-east Kent economy as people will be coming from across the world to the largest event of its type held anywhere.

Mr Cadman said: "The grandstand provides excellent views of the area where the vehicles will be displayed and the re-enactments take place. For the first time the event will be shown on closed-circuit TV, so visitors can have a beer in the bar while they watch what's going on."

Southern England's largest outdoor event started off 31 years ago with a small gathering of military-vehicle fans at the Kent and East Sussex Railway in Tenterden.



HISTORIC ENTERTAINMENT: From Kitten Von Mew (top left) and Satin Dollz (top centre) to tanks, planes and cars, The War and Peace Revival has a whole host of attractions to appeal to the crowds

"There were about 100 exhibitors and it's grown to the thousands we have now," said Mr Cadman, who with his brother Rod started his collection of about 150 military vehicles with a jeep and became involved in the show in 1989.

"Since then it has grown to the point where it is unmatched anywhere else in the world," he said. "It is the premier gathering for military-vehicle enthusiasts and re-enactors. The big-

gest rival is about 10 per cent the size of us."

Earlier this month, re-enactors came to visit the venue for the first time, bringing costumes, props and vehicles as a preview was staged.

"We even had some people camping out for the night," said Mr Cadman. "We have had a great response – now on to the main event!"

Amanda Cottrell, chair of Visit Kent, said the show would be a boost to tourism.

MUSICAL FUN

Among the attractions on stage at the event will be the V Is For Variety show.

This will feature entertainment from the 1940s to 1960s, including nostalgia and magic alongside harmony-singing from the Swingtime Sweethearts. Music in the V Marquee varies from blues to the bayou to Kitten Von Mew's song-and-dance routines.

A 1940s dinner and dance will feature the John Miller Orchestra, led by the nephew of Glenn Miller, who will perform tunes from the big-band era.

SCHOOLS' DAY

Kent school? The come along to the free War and Peace Revival Schools' Day on Wednesday, July 17.

The Living History field with its vast range of displays from 1914 to the present day is a fantastic history lesson and for 2013 War and Peace has a new Home Front area covering the impact of war on civilians.

For more details about Schools' Day or to book, phone 01304 813337.



YOUR WEEKEND

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features@kosmedia.co.uk**JAZZED UP:** University of Greenwich's Big Band

Big-band sound gets Medway in the mood

A MULTI-MEDIA celebration of jazz and swing music will be performed by the University of Greenwich's Big Band to raise money for charity at their Medway campus in June.

Medway In The Mood takes place on Sunday, June 16, at 3pm in the Pilkington Lecture Theatre on the campus.

The show will feature images documenting the history of Chatham to the tune of jazz, big band and swing music.

Band-leader Dr Fred Parrett said: "The university big band has raised thousands of pounds for worthy causes over the years, thanks to the generous donations of our audiences."

The event is open to all and entry is free, but you should book tickets via email. There will be a collection for Rochester's Wisdom Hospice and Northfleet's EllenorLions Hospice.

For more information and for tickets, email Dr Fred Parrett at bigband@gre.ac.uk or phone 020 8460 2116.

Charity exhibiting patients' mindful journey to recovery

By Greg Milesgreg.miles@archant.co.uk

AN ART exhibition featuring work by people with mental-health problems goes on show in Sevenoaks next month.

Members of the art group at Sevenoaks Mind are holding their annual exhibition at The Orangery at Knole, the National Trust house on the edge of the town.

The exhibition, this year titled A Mindful Journey, features artworks created by clients of Mind, who remain anonymous.

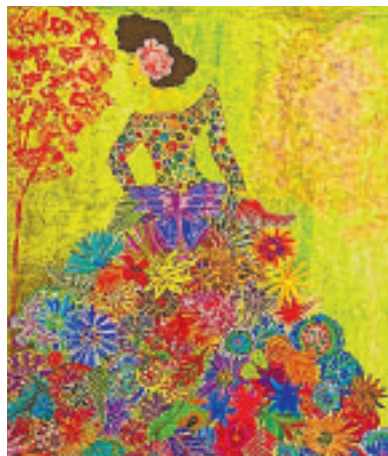
Mind offers support and services for those with mental-health problems as well as those working within a recovery plan.

The artwork, which includes paintings and sculptures, explores the baggage we bring with us on life's journey.

A blind auction for the artwork will also take place: visitors can enter sealed bids or take part in the raffle, which gives a chance to win one of three original canvases.

The art has been created in weekly workshops hosted at Knole and has, according to Mind community liaison officer Gill Whiting, helped to give clients back their confidence.

She said: "I started running the workshops as a therapeutic intervention providing clients with a safe base to raise self-esteem and build confidence while exploring new skills and ideas or revisiting lost and forgotten talents."

**VISUAL:** Mind uses art as a form of recuperation

"The canvases give our art members great kudos and the opportunity to regauge their self-worth and a growing confidence in their ability to do well."

A Mindful Journey will be on display in The Orangery from Tuesday, June 4, to Sunday, June 23, from 10.30am to 5pm. No booking is required and entry to The Orangery is free.

FAB FOUR

The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury
Saturday, June 1, 8.15pm
Phone: 01227 787787

Website: www.marlowetheatre.com

The Marlowe Comedy Cabaret: Enjoy a night of comedy at The Marlowe Studio, headlined by Tom Deacon and featuring MC Carl Hutchinson, Mat Richardson and Helen Keen. Tickets £13.



The Orchard Theatre, Dartford
Sunday, June 2, 7.30pm
Phone: 01322 220000

Website: www.orchardtheatre.co.uk

The Brothers Gibb: Enjoy the ultimate Bee Gees tribute show, featuring all the great hits from the original trio's four decades of music, including Saturday Night Fever. Tickets £19.50.



Assembly Hall, Tunbridge Wells
May 28-June 1, 2.30pm and 7.30pm
Phone: 01892 530613

Website: www.assemblyhalltheatre.co.uk

Yes, Prime Minister: After two sell-out seasons in the West End, the adaptation of the original BBC series comes to Tunbridge Wells; featuring Michael Fenton Stevens and Crispin Redman.



The Astor Theatre, Deal
Friday, June 14, 8pm
Phone: 01304 370220

Website: www.theastor.org

Talking Books with Polly Toynbee and David Walker: An evening with political and social commentator, award-winning columnist and novelist Polly Toynbee. Tickets £15.

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FOOD & DRINK **Flavours of Kent**

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Carriage chef back on track to make this Red Lion roar

After the disappointing closure of the Carriage Restaurant at Faversham's Railway Hotel, news that the chef behind the vanquished venue had already popped up elsewhere came as a great relief.

Clare Brown, who has worked at The Goods Shed in Canterbury and had a spell at Jamie Oliver's 15, has started a nightly supper club at The Red Lion in Badlesmere on the outskirts of Faversham.

Rural pubs around the county are hitting the peaks of our culinary quarter and, depending on the chef's movements, the Badlesmere hostelry could be the next to join the top division.

Real ales on tap and a rustic look to the pub make a homely and traditionally Kentish feel.

Chat between the locals and visiting diners made the atmosphere buzz and a bread basket met us on the way to our seats.

To start, I chose the pork-and-pigeon terrine. The meaty terrine wrapped in cured pork was both delicious and light but, paired with the tangy chutney on toast, the dish was a few mouthfuls of bliss.

My guest went for the ultra-seasonal Kentish asparagus and Ashmore Cheddar tart. Again it was light and bursting with flavour.

For the main course I took on the sizeable

RESTAURANT REVIEW



locally-caught cod fillet. It was well presented and built on a bed of chorizo, parsley, squash and long-stemmed broccoli.

The salty, light and boneless flesh of the cod was superb and the vegetables were likewise impressive. All was served in a tomato-and-fish-stock sauce that grew ever more powerful with every bite.

Over on the other side of the table came a huge ribeye steak smothered in a mushroom-and-peppercorn sauce.

Cooked perfectly medium – the eater's choice –

the steak was another tasty dish and I did my best to help finish it off.

It would be good to know where the meat was sourced, for two reasons. Firstly, to know where I could get hold of such a quality slab and, secondly, how it could be priced at a mere £15.75.

Dessert was difficult to fit in and so we shared a helping of the interestingly-named chocolate-chilled cake.

Interestingly named because it was not really a cake – it was more of a flapjack with chilled chocolate pieces and spongy bits all rolled into one and served with vanilla ice-cream. Whatever it was, it was clearly made in-house, inventive and delectable.

The total bill, including drinks but no service charge, came to £55 – a snip for a really well-cooked meal. The staff were friendly and the chef ventured out of her kitchen to see how her diners were getting on – a nice touch.

With meals like that coming out of the kitchen, The Red Lion at Badlesmere has all the ingredients to cement a place on the must-visit list for the county's foodies.

Joe Bill

■ **The Red Lion, Ashford Road, Badlesmere Lees, Faversham ME13 0NX (phone 01233 740320)**

Now Ashford has its own food festival

ASHFORD is hosting a food-and-drink festival to tantalise shoppers' taste buds next month.

The event will take place in North Street on Friday and Saturday, June 21-22, with dozens of local producers and international traders hosting stalls.

Visitors can expect to see Kentish root beer, Italian biscuits and sweets, Mediterranean delicacies, German sausages, gourmet burgers, French crêpes, artisan breads, Peruvian cuisine and local lemonade on sale.

The event will be run by Amber Markets in partnership with Ashford Borough Council, which has committed Portas Pilot funding towards the event.

Brilliant, golden and an ale with tradition

A RECIPE unearthed from the archives of Faversham's Shepherd Neame brewery has inspired the launch of its new Brilliant Ale.

Described as a "bright golden" brew, Brilliant is part of the Classic Collection and has a strength of 5.6 per cent.

It follows Sheps' release in October 2012 of Double Stout and India Pale Ale, the first two beers in the Classic Collection.

In keeping with its historic credentials, Brilliant Ale is being presented in traditional amber glass bottles embellished with the brewery's 19th-century logo.

Visit www.shepherdneame.co.uk/shop.

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Homes & Gardens

Pottering around can still reap you some delicious rewards

GARDENING WITH THE EXPERT

JEREMY SHIRLEY



PROVERB of the month: 'A dry May and a leaking June makes the farmer whistle a very merry tune'.

The recent rains came as an unexpected blessing, but none of us welcome the extremely cold night temperatures. This is a month for fruit-planting!

Crazy? No! Wise nurseries recognise that pot-grown fruit trees, grape vines and cane and bramble fruits can be planted safely now, although the traditional time is October to March.

I have found that when the weather is amenable you can see growth rather than barren stems in winter's slumber.

So if you have missed out, visit your local nursery now! Even pot-grown gooseberries can fruit this season and you might just crop a few grapes.

I like to think folk will be more adventurous. Who grows cardoons? Never heard of them? This



is a perennial vegetable related to globe artichokes that, planted now, will crop in September.

Cardoons grow about 6ft tall and the stems are pulled together late summer with brown paper or straw overlain with black polythene tied in fairly tight with string. The exclusion of light blanches the stems.

Cut out one or two and skin, as you would prepare rhubarb. Cut stems suitable to dish size,

steam and serve with melted butter or place in an oven-proof dish in the oven sprinkled with grated cheese. Yummy!

Regular vegetable-sowing, little and often, can continue. Why not give salsify, the so-called vegetable oyster, a try? Or the black-rooted scorzonera? Sow as you would parsnips. Dig 'em up as you would parsnips from October as required.

My son Stephen has just finished potting our trial tomatoes, chillies and peppers. His chilli jam can be found at The Goods Shed in Canterbury and the Café Mauresque restaurant in the same city – both are well worth a visit!

Fuchsias, such dependable plants, can be set outside now. Like many plants, they have their own inbuilt repellent and are never troubled by slugs. Lavender, rosemary, begonias... all have such defence properties.

Folk with restricted space should certainly grow herbs such as chives and garlic.

Chives, except in the depths of winter, are always handy for that special garnish, while parsley sauce is glorious with white fish.

Cut tansy stems will keep flies out of the kitchen – a troublesome problem for those who have



GENTLY DOES IT: It's not too late to try planting varieties of fruit and vegetables in garden pots

Continued on page 55

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Foods to cover all types and quality of pond fish from Sanikoi, Tetra, NT Labs, Nishikoi and an economy range from Pets Choice.

Working on our own display ponds you can view, Nexus 210 Eazy, Cloverleaf CL2 Adtec, Cloverleaf Genesis, Waterco Laron bead filter, Cetus sieve, multicyclone and many more general pond filters, UV lights, heaters and pumps. Demonstrations are freely given to fully demonstrate the benefits of each filter system.

We carry a range of pond plants from Beaver Plants along with baskets and aquatic compost.

A range of free standing water features both mains and solar powered are on display from Bermuda.

Pond Construction; we offer a free site survey and quotation service to those considering a new pond or upgrades to an existing one (subject to location) along with our pond maintenance service for those that need a little help.

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Homes & Gardens

Continued from page 53

a cat or dog and leave their unfinished food bowl on the floor.

A lady wrote to me some years ago about our Eau de Cologne plants. As a farmer's wife, she made various jams and chutneys, claiming the plants even kept wasps out of the kitchen.

I cannot claim that, but we are seldom troubled by August and September wasps.

We have almost completed our display-planting of a range of colourful plant-life. Some subjects go back over 100 years and are interspersed with tubs of lilies.

It's time to plant out chrysanthemums now. The flowers, believe it or not, are safe to garnish salad and food dishes. Botanically known as *Chrysanthemum indicum*, they are very popular in China and Japan.

No one answered correctly last month's question to claim £25 worth of plants. The author of the gardening piece from 1947 that I quoted was Mr Middleton, BBC's Radio Gardener, who knew his subject.

That's an attribute sadly lacking in all presenters today – so much inaccurate information, bluff, bluster and artificial laughs.

No matter, this month **£25 worth of nursery stock** goes to the person who can say who wrote the following, and when:

"My English and Latin grammar is lacking, my spelling is sometimes even worse, so before you send me packing, let me complete this little verse.

"Yes there is something I must say. Exciting choice, delightful plants are things I like, whatever the time of day.

"Now let's go gardening and create a lovely sight. Yes share this joy with me. Plant a shrub, a honeysuckle, tomato, herbaceous plant, unusual seed and don't forget sweet pea. Relax a while and raise a smile developing your land.



WATER FEATURE: Making a shallow-water pond will attract a host of wildlife and insects to your garden

"The pleasure and need a garden fulfils is something really grand."

The name of the winner and any runners-up will be published in Kent on Sunday. The closing date for entry is Sunday, June 30.

It's amazing how far Kent on Sunday goes – I have just sent a packet of Milly's Bees Mix to a Mrs McKitty in Wolverhampton!

Time to celebrate! It's our 50th birthday in Kent. Well, Jo and Jerry Shirley – a young married couple – moved to Challock on July 17, 1963, and built out a modern specialist nursery with enormous plant-production and worldwide sales.

My son Stephen and his wife Serena own Victoriana, and how life has changed.

Fifty years on and we now have customers who were children years ago.

They visited the caves, rode on the train and

bought guinea pigs, rabbits and fish. All memories, but you can view scenes from this time on our website at www.victoriananursery.co.uk. The film quality is not 100 per cent as it is copied from old cine films. Will cine film rise again? Maybe...

Water gardening, ponds and breeding Bristol Blue Shubunkin fish has been a fascination of mine since I was a schoolboy.

I was never idle, breeding piebald mice, tree frogs and salamanders, growing cacti from seed from Woolworths and breeding peacock butterflies. I was never bored and am alive and alert to this day.

There has been bad press over people having a pond and children playing conkers, climbing trees or even model-making because of glue-sniffing – what a world!

Why not make a shallow-water wildlife pond? This will attract pretty damselflies, newts, frogs or toads. As if by magic, these harmless creatures will arrive and need no attention.

You can buy the liner, oxygenating plants and marsh or bog plants. With guidance, you can inoculate the pond using ordinary tapwater, while microscopic invertebrates will help comprise the natural food chain. Examine the water after a couple of weeks under a microscope.

Such a complete pond measuring 7x7 feet can be had for £62 – or you can make a larger pond with water lilies.

Nowadays there is no need for expensive filters and pumps unless you want to make a fountain or waterfall. Cloud-forming algae, green water and blanket weed can be eliminated at very little cost... it's nature's way without nasty chemicals.

There is an increasing interest in lawn plants as an alternative to grass – these include sweet-smelling chamomile, creeping thyme with pretty pink flowers... and a discovery I made at a crazy wedding celebration in Germany in 1953.

This was *Sagina subulata* – almost like a moss, with tiny flowers followed by small pearl-like berries, it is lovely to walk on and never needs cutting.

I called it Emerald Angel Hair, but it's also known as heath pearlwort. Why not try a small area? A customer did and subsequently we despatched 10,000 plants – that's some order to prepare and usually in short supply as quantity is grown to order!

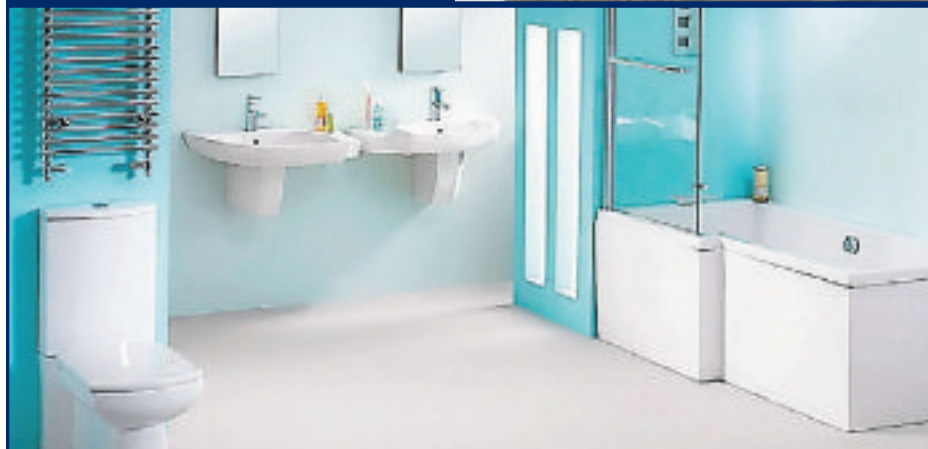
Finally, our best wishes to all our friends and families and the next generation's support as we approach 50 years in Kent.

■ You can read an extended version of this article at www.kentnews.co.uk/leisure.

■ Jeremy Shirley developed Challock's Victoriana Nursery Gardens; you can visit www.victoriananursery.co.uk to find out more.

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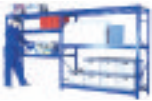
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Buyers discover the benefits of off-plan

WITH new homes in high demand, many purchasers across Kent are choosing to buy a property off-plan to secure their new home.

Tina Dedman, of Berkeley Homes, said: "Buying a property off-plan in today's market offers a number of advantages.

"You get to choose from a variety of plots available, and if you buy early enough in the build programme you will get the opportunity to personalise your new home and select your kitchen and colour schemes for your floorings and bathroom tiles."

Latest figures from Savills indicate that buying a new-build home off-plan in today's market could also prove a sound investment.

A number of Berkeley developments in Kent, including Holborough Lakes in Snodland and Ryewood in Sevenoaks, are achieving impressive capital growth rates on properties being sold off-plan. Purchasers who reserved a plot in the first phase at Ryewood in spring 2012, for example, have already achieved a capital increase of about 5-10 per cent on the value of their property between reservation and completion.

Similar capital growth rates have also been achieved on properties purchased in the most recent phase at Holborough Lakes, too.



Jonathan Bateman, director at Residential Sales Savills, said: "When selling homes off-plan, experienced developers ensure that each phase released during the sales cycle offers a wide selection of properties.

"Berkeley Homes, for example, also refreshes the specification of the fixtures and fittings included in its homes to ensure each new release of homes reflects the latest trends and products available on the market.

"And with the chance to potentially achieve capital growth on your new home even before you have moved in, now really is a great time for people

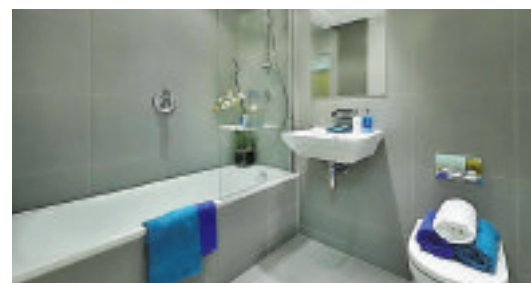
to invest in a new-build property."

A new phase of homes, finished to a high specification, is now available at the Ryewood development, including two-bedroom apartments and three- and four-bedroom townhouses.

Ryewood is set in leafy, landscaped gardens with a recently-opened residents' gym and a new play area for children to enjoy.

Dunton Green train station is just a few minutes' walk away, with trains into London Bridge, Charing Cross and Cannon Street.

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Very good value
- Mr & Mrs Thurbon of Kent
GN People very friendly and helpful
- Mrs Norman of Sidcup
What Readers said about our Private Party Breaks at Pontin's Pakefield

MAMMA MIA & SUPER 70s SEASIDE PARTY

Friday 28 June, 2013

Quote MM6-KOS

We're taking a trip down memory lane at Pontins Pakefield with a 99p Bar every night, and great variety entertainment including a Mamma Mia movie screening, Abba and 70s tribute bands and a host of nostalgic fun. The Good News Holidays team and Pontins Bluecoats will be on hand to ensure everyone has a great time.

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WELCOME TO Fabulous LAS VEGAS LEGENDS SEASIDE PARTY

Friday 4 October, 2013

Quote PL10-KOS

The Rat Pack and an endless list of world famous stars have made Las Vegas the entertainment capital of the world. We're bringing a taste of Vegas fun to Pontins Pakefield with great variety entertainment including tribute acts and a host of nostalgic fun. Plus a 99p Bar every night, and the Good News Holidays team onsite.

**3 NIGHTS
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DIRTY DANCING WITH *FRANKIE VALLI & THE FOUR SEASONS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday 8 November, 2013

Quote DD11-KOS

Forget Carry on Camping, Dirty Dancing must be the 'hottest' holiday camp movie of all time. Our Christmas Party features a movie screening of Dirty Dancing, Let's Hang On - the world's No1 *Frankie Valli & Four Seasons tribute band and a host of nostalgic fun. Plus a 99p Bar every night, and the Good News Holidays team onsite.

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SWINGING SIXTIES CHRISTMAS PARTY

Friday 15 November, 2013

Quote MX11-KOS

We're taking a trip down memory lane at Pontins Pakefield, situated on the Suffolk coast near Lowestoft. We have reserved the whole resort for the weekend which includes a 99p Bar and great variety entertainment every night, including 60s tribute acts and a host of nostalgic fun. Plus the Good News Holidays team onsite.

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National recognition for shopping centre

ROYAL Victoria Place shopping complex has won a prize at the retail industry's Purple Apple Marketing Awards for its Royal Rocks! campaign last year.

The event recognises effective marketing initiatives over the last 12 months.

The Royal Rocks! displays at the Tunbridge Wells centre were staged during the 2012 Jubilee celebrations and showcased replicas of the Crown Jewels.

Items on display included replica pieces of jewellery as worn by Diana, Princess of Wales, who opened Royal Victoria Place nearly 21 years ago, as well as Queen Victoria whom the centre is named after.

Manager Marc Burchett said: "I'm delighted the exhibition made such an impact, not just on visitors but within the retail industry. This is a fantastic achievement and recognises the success of the exhibition and the hard work that goes into organising an event of this scale. The team are extremely proud and honoured to bring the award back to the town."

The sky's the limit for helicopter contract

BAE Systems' facility at Rochester has won its ninth order for a system that gives helicopter pilots more 'feel' in their controls.

The Active Parallel Actuator Subsystem (APAS) should be fitted to some models of the Chinook helicopter. Boeing awarded BAE Systems an initial two-year development contract to produce a number of APAS units in December 2012, which are slated for flight testing in early 2015. Production is expected to follow in 2018.

BAE's Dave Banks said: "This is cutting-edge combat technology, raising the limits of aircraft performance while building on our excellent supplier relationship with Boeing."

If you have a business story, then we would like to hear from you. Telephone the newsdesk on 01303 817000, or alternatively email your story to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

Theatre wins award for design and innovation

IT RIVALS only the city's cathedral on the Canterbury skyline and now the new Marlowe Theatre has scooped a major award from the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors.

It was named project of the year at the 2013 RICS South East Awards, which was held to celebrate "inspirational initiatives in the land, property and construction sectors".

Other winners in the county included Watling Court in Gravesend, named regeneration of the year, and Franklyn House in Sturry, near Canterbury, which won the residential property gong.

Project of the year is presented to the scheme which demonstrates overall outstanding best practice.

Chair of the RICS South East judging panel, James Offen, said: "Scoring highly in design and innovation in 2012 and winning the award for tourism and leisure this year, in the eyes of the judging committee this is an outstanding entry and as such wins the award for best overall project."



Lack of growth hits rural economy as pessimism chokes development

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

RISING unemployment, shrinking profits and plummeting confidence in countryside businesses has thrown the rural economy to the brink of a further recession, according to a new survey by the Country Land and Business Association (CLA) and land agents Smiths Gore.

Data from the Rural Economy Index for the first quarter of 2013 shows both agricultural and non-agricultural rural businesses are suffering. Agricultural businesses are faring worst.

And it seems the optimism felt in 2012 has gone – washed away by bad weather, poor harvests and the rising price of livestock feed.

The measure of optimism used by the index tumbled by some 40 per cent compared with the same quarter last year.

In addition, sales have fallen in the past six months with orders, sales and profits expected to be lower in the next 12 months.

Farming businesses also anticipate employing fewer people.

All of which paints a gloomy picture for what is the traditional backbone of Kent's industry.

Non-agricultural businesses are less optimistic although they still expect higher profits in the next year despite actual sales shrinking over the

EVERYONE IS ASKED TO PLAY THEIR PART

Rural businesses need the cooperation of the public in the bid to crack down on crime eating away at their bottom line.

Chairman of the Crime Rural Advisory Group, and the former High Sheriff of Kent, Michael Bax, says a new push will be launched later this year designed to ensure businesses do not pay a high price for the cost of crime.

Speaking to KoS, he said: "A new collaborative initiative to coordinate the fight against rural crime across Kent is going to be launched this year."

"Rural businesses and the public will be asked not just to help be the eyes and ears of the police in the countryside but to actively report incidents via 101, Crimestoppers on 0800 555111, the internet and a phone app."

"Part of the difficulty is that there are a lot of incidents that go unreported to the police. The knock on impact of these events can be expensive for the home or landowner or rural business owner and if they are being repeated across the county this can add up to a significant financial loss."

"Without reporting, the police are inevitably unaware of crime levels."

past six months and the number of business enquiries falling.

Hopes for higher employment also faded with fewer non-farming businesses expecting to employ more people in the next year.

President of the CLA, Harry Cotterell, said: "This comes at a time when the Government's priority is growth. Therefore, we call on the Government to reduce the negative impacts of over regulation by implementing the Macdonald rec-

ommendations as soon as possible, putting in place a broadband infrastructure that is effective, affordable and available to all and encouraging rural businesses to fully embrace the principles of growth."

The Macdonald recommendations were put forward by former National Farmers' Union chief Richard Macdonald after he headed a task-force instructed by Defra to examine how to slash red tape and free up the rural economy.

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Business Week

Training, courses and careers

Student union wins national award for ensuring a clear voice for all



WINNER: Mdkhamiri Nkemi

MIDKENT College Students' Union has won a major national award for its representation of black learners.

The college was praised for having three black members on its student union executive committee.

Media officer Mdkhamiri A Nkemi and black students' officers Faith Kumson and Brookie Odutolu were on hand to pick up their prize at the National Union of Students' Black Achievers'

Awards.

Mdkhamiri Nkemi said: "We were really surprised to win because we were up against so many other students' unions."

"It was really nice to be recognised on a national level for all the work we've put in."

"Every student at the college should have someone who represents them, otherwise they will struggle to have their voice heard."

Sittingbourne site holds the Quays to top award

A TRAINING centre based in a hostel for vulnerable adults is to receive a European Social Fund (ESF) award.

Canterbury College, which runs the centre, received the ESF Inspiring Learning award for its work at the Quays hostel in Sittingbourne.

The learning centre helps boost skills for employment or volunteering, with courses in the likes of IT, literacy, numeracy and work skills. Learners can progress to further courses or go into employment.

Creative Quarter deal for academy sixth form

THE Folkestone Academy has reached a deal to set up a sixth form centre in the town's Creative Quarter.

Opening in September at the Glassworks, it will offer a dedicated site for the academy's growing sixth form and help ease pressure on space at its existing site.

Currently, the academy teaches 240 post-16 students and this is expected to rise to over 350 when the new academic year begins in September 2013.



TENDER: Competitive process will determine who takes over at K College

K College opens doors to future management

DOZENS of organisations descended on the campuses of K College this week as part of the first competitive tendering process of its kind to find new management teams.

The college - which operates from bases in Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells, Ashford, Folkestone and Dover - fell into financial crisis last year after racking up debts of some £1.6m.

It blamed inherited debts from the college's creation, just three years ago, when it was forged from the merger of West Kent and South Kent colleges.

As a result, the interim principal confirmed the merger had failed and that it was proposing to split the college into two divisions - both of which would be led by new management teams.

The Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells and Ashford campuses would form one part, and the two coastal towns, the other.

This week the campuses in Tonbridge and Folkestone opened their doors for interested parties to visit. More than 50 had already voiced an interest.

Overseen by the Skills Funding Agency and the Education Funding Agency, a competitive tendering process will be introduced to commission further education and training provision currently delivered by the college.

The competition process will run in two stages: the first stage invites expressions of interest and the second stage will invite selected organisations to submit a full tender for the future pro-

vision delivery requirements. Interested parties will need to demonstrate how they will meet the needs of local people and employers.

It is not yet known whether other local colleges are among those interested in moving in on K College.

Having returned dire financial figures, the college's principal, Bill Fearon, resigned in December and interim principal Phil Frier was drafted in to oversee the college's transition, along with officials parachuted in from the government funding agencies.

Students commencing courses in September are being guaranteed they will be able to see their course through to completion.

It comes at a vital time for further education establishments with changes in legislation ushering in a raised leaving age from education from 16 to 18.

Phil Frier explained: "There is a lot of interest from other colleges, training providers and universities in bidding for the work currently operating across all five towns."

"We have always said the college will not close and this open competition signifies a bright future for both students across Kent and also our own staff."

"It is particularly good news for current and future learners, as it guarantees that further and higher education currently served by our five campuses will continue to be provided. Learners can be assured of long term high quality technical and vocational education."

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Expert support for university's efforts

THE combined power of one of the county's main universities joining forces with schools and further education providers to ensure a more focused approach to making youngsters ready for the world of work - and enhancing adult education opportunities - was outlined to expert Professor Les Ebdon.

Prof Ebdon, director of the independent Office for Fair Access, was at the University

of Kent at Canterbury where he met with students and staff.

He learned of the university's links with more than 40 schools and colleges and the increased provision for adult learners.

Prof Ebdon said: "I was interested to hear about the work Kent is doing with local schools to help raise aspirations and achievement, as well as the excellent progress at the university-sponsored

Brompton Academy. Kent is also working in partnership with local colleges to provide opportunities for adults returning to education and trying to access higher education."

The Office for Fair Access is a non-departmental public body, promoting and safeguarding fair access to higher education for lower income and other under-represented groups, since fees soared.

Country park and housing development given go-ahead

A MAJOR new leisure and residential development in Ashford has been given the green light after councillors approved planning permission for a country park on a former quarry site.

After two years of discussions and planning with landowners the Brett Group, Ashford Borough Council gave permission for the Conningbrook Lakes project.

The site by the Julie Rose Stadium, formerly used for quarrying sand and gravel, will eventually be transformed into a country park with water activities, foot and cyclepaths, nature trails, a water-front restaurant and a lakeside village of 300 homes.

Ashford council's head of cultural and project services, Mark Carty, said: "This is the culmination of two years of hard work. The overall business plan was accepted by the council last year, but now we can turn the vision into a reality."

"Conningbrook Lakes will be one of the best facilities of its kind in the south east, offering sailing,



canoeing, kayaking, swimming, walking, cycling and family-friendly leisure all in one place, and in stunning surroundings.

"We are currently finalising arrangements with a number of specialist partner organisations that will work with us to operate and manage the country park. We will be making further announcements once these are concluded."



Frozen tariffs helping to build stronger relationships at port

By Chris Britcher

chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

FERRY firms say a move by Dover Harbour Board to freeze any price hike in the tariff it levies on their use of the port for the next six months is a "step in the right direction" as they continue to struggle in the face of the tough economic conditions.

In the latest chapter in a long-running saga over the charges imposed by the port on the main ferry operators, DHB confirmed the move to freeze the costs followed "constructive engagement" with its main clients.

The ferry firms had become embroiled in a fierce row with harbour officials over what they claimed was an "excessive" 33 per cent hike in the tariff between 2009 and 2012.

P&O Ferries, SeaFrance (now MyFerryLink) and Norfolkline (now DFDS) had all challenged the high charges. They said they had been forced to pay higher charges in order to fund a new ferry terminal at the busy port.

But with the slump in the economy and the port's privatisation plans – which subsequently failed – the new terminal was put on the back burner. Instead, the extra £60 million raised, the ferry firms claim, has gone on repairs to the existing Eastern Docks.

A public inquiry was held in 2011 as part of what is known as a Section 31 appeal. But, to the



POSITIVE SIGN: The six-month price freeze at Dover port has been welcomed by ferry companies

shock of the ferry companies, the transport secretary approved the fee charges last year. Since then, talks between the port and ferry operators have looked to build bridges going forward – resulting in the latest move to freeze prices.

Chris Laming, spokesman for P&O Ferries, told

KoS this week: "Relations between the ferry companies and Dover Harbour Board have been severely strained for several years."

"They (DHB) need to re-establish good working relationships with their major customers and we welcome this moratorium as our sector continues to feel the full negative force of the recession. We hope this may be a more positive sign of things to come as we edge towards agreement on the long-term price path."

In a statement issued on behalf of the ferry operators, Carsten Jensen, senior vice president of DFDS Seaways, said: "We are pleased with the flexibility shown by the Port of Dover in this case by allowing more time to listen to the operators before a final decision is made."

"We welcome the port's willingness to engage in discussions about our concerns and look forward to a constructive dialogue that will hopefully materialise in a reasonable result."

Tim Waggott, chief operating officer at the Port of Dover, said: "I am determined to build on the good work that has been going on for many months in building a stronger, open and trusting relationship between the port and its ferry partners."

"Freezing ferry tariffs for a further six months will give us the time needed to work even more closely together towards the delivery of great customer value, and further refining the new tariff framework."

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

£150m loan fund to offer fee-free grants

NATWEST and the Royal Bank of Scotland's leisure team has launched a £150m fund offering fee-free loans to support investment in the leisure industry.

Lending under the fund comes with two six-month capital repayment holidays allowing breathing space for investment and contingency planning. For information call 0800 529 8104 or email leisure@natwest.com.

MP Fallon set to open annual business show

BUSINESS minister Michael Fallon will officially open this year's Sevenoaks Business Show when it returns on October 11.

Taking place at the Stag Plaza in London Road, between 10am and 4pm, the event is open to businesses of all sizes and is designed to be a key networking opportunity. See sevenoaksbusinessshow.eventbrite.co.uk for details on how to attend and exhibit.

Hope springs eternal in latest FSB figures

OPTIMISM is returning to small businesses across Kent, according to the latest survey.

The Federation of Small Businesses' Spring 2013 Barometer reveals one in three small firms expect 2013 to see improvement.

It compares to one in four expecting a decline. Sales last year improved for 38 per cent of small businesses – down from 44 per cent the year before.

Town sees company start-ups on the rise

ACCORDING to the latest research, some 161 companies were formed in Folkestone during the first quarter of the year – up 19 per cent on the same time last year.

The latest Duport Business Confidence Report contains encouraging figures for the seaside town, including a rise in net company growth during the first quarter of the year. Company closures rose by less than one per cent.

Westwood Cross sees latest tenant move in

SUPERDRUG opened its new 5,000 sq-ft store at Westwood Cross in Broadstairs on Friday – creating 19 new jobs.

Tom Price, centre manager at Westwood Cross, said: "Superdrug will be a fantastic addition to the centre, strengthening our already popular health and beauty offering."

Superdrug already has stores throughout the county, including branches in nearby Margate.

Gavin Tyler takes up head role at Cripps

LAW firm Cripps Harries Hall has appointed Gavin Tyler as new managing partner – replacing Jonathan Denny who stepped down after 23 years in the post.

Mr Tyler took over the top job earlier this month. He was previously head of the corporate division, since 2008, and has been a partner in the firm, which has its headquarters in Tunbridge Wells, since 1990.

Housing group agrees deal with community heating firm

INDEPENDENT firm Swale Heating has landed a major contract with a Midlands housing group worth some £2.5 million a year.

The firm, which started dealing from a small shop in Sheerness in 1972, is now the biggest heating company in the south east.

And its position has been boosted by an agreement with Orbit Heart of England, which owns and manages around 16,500 properties, to provide appliance servicing and repairs.

Orbit joins a growing number of commercial landlords and local

authorities using the company, which is now headquartered on the Eurolink estate in Sittingbourne.

In the past 12 months the firm has moved into Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire, as well as consolidating its presence in the south east.

Chris Riley, Swale Heating's operations director, said: "We are delighted to be associated with the company, to be undertaking all its vital heating appliance service work and to be maintaining the highest possible standards."

The contract runs for 18 months.



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Driving

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By **Steve Loader**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT used to be the practice for three-door versions of family hatchbacks to mirror their better-selling five-door sisters.

The tendency now, though, is to create a sexier coupé-style three-door model with increasingly tenuous styling links, and taken closer to the extreme by the latest Kia Proceed (from £17,495) – as the name suggests, a racier spin-off from the Korean marque's Ceed five-door.

The new-generation Ceed and its Sportswagon estate variant are two of the classiest cars in the family-hatch sector, so it was a safe bet that Kia design supremo Peter Schreyer – the man who has transformed the brand's line-up – would 'proceed' to make their sporting sister even more alluring.

Kia describes the new Proceed as its "most emotionally-charged vehicle to date", with Schreyer himself adding: "With its distinctive form, language and dynamic proportions, muscular stance and athletic lines, this 'coupé' follows a very different visual path to the Ceed. It's a completely different car on every level."

Apart from the Kia corporate front end, very little of the Ceed's looks are carried over to the Proceed's low-slung body, which is accentuated by a bold crease on the flanks and rakish side windows, highlighted in chrome.

The roof, body sides and rear are all new, yet the car shares the Ceed's external dimensions but for its height being 40mm lower than its five-door sibling. And yet practicality is improved compared with the previous car: boot storage is up 40 litres to 380 litres – the same as the five-door Ceed – and up 15 litres to 1,225 litres once the 60:40-split rear seats are down, and with more storage beneath the boot floor.

We haven't driven it yet but, based on the Ceed's classy ride and handling, fully expect it to be impressive, especially as it will soon be joined by Kia's first-ever performance-orientated model – the Proceed GT.

For now there are two trim levels – S and SE – with standard kit including LED daytime running lights, fog lights, 'puddle' lights built into the colour-coded door mirrors, high-level rear spoiler with integrated LED brake light, LED rear tail lights, chrome-tipped oval exhaust, leather-trimmed steering wheel, gear lever and handbrake, automatic lights, heated and folding door mirrors, cruise-control, steering-wheel-mounted controls, air-con, iPod and USB connectivity, Bluetooth and reversing sensors.

The car also comes with Kia's Flex Steer steering system, offering Normal, Comfort or Sport steering modes, plus a full complement of safety aids and Kia's usual seven-year/100,000-mile warranty.

There are two engine options for now: a 1.6-litre petrol and 1.6-litre turbodiesel with Intelligent Stop & Go (ISG). Six-speed manual transmission is standard, with the option of a six-speed Dual Clutch Transmission (auto/manual) box on the 1.6 GDI SE (£20,795).



KIA PROCEED

Price:	from £17,495
Driving appeal:	not yet driven
Image:	★★★★
Space:	★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Best rival:	Vauxhall Astra GTC

Kia proceeds in coupé style



MOVING FORWARD:
The Kia Proceed is the logical next step in the marque's revolution, and it's very much worth your time and consideration

DON'T LIKE

... having to find something not to like. This car looks good and again shows how far Kia's design and production has travelled in just five years.

NOT SURE

... even this racy second-generation Proceed will dispel lingering badge snobbery. Some people ought to wake up to what they're missing.

REALLY LIKE

... the car's looks and style. It could still drive like a duffer – but probably won't – yet the hand of Peter Schreyer has created another winner.



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Adam gets the job for his looks

By Steve Loader

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IF the Vauxhall Adam went up before a recruitment panel, then the summary would surely run like this:

"Adam has style and is very presentable and would be an asset to the company's image, but we do wonder if the lad has the depth and character to deliver what's required week in, week out. He's a city boy at heart and we cannot see him roughing it if asked to go out and about.

"Nevertheless, we still recommend him for the job, because we think he will develop and grow."

And that last part is key, for the Adam (£11,255) is so close to being a serious rival to the BMW Mini that I cannot understand why Vauxhall – which has rarely put a foot wrong lately – didn't get it right first time.

The deficiency I refer to is the car's driving character. When I got into the Adam at launch time earlier this year I was impressed by the looks and packaging, less so by its ride and handling, even though I rarely exceeded 40mph, as the event was held on the outskirts of London.

A week in rural Kent, though, has confirmed that the Adam is even more of a city kid than I thought. It feels bouncy and unruly on much-patched country roads and the light steering – a boon in slow-moving town traffic and for tight parking manoeuvres – doesn't feed much back when pressing on.

Another doubt confirmed is the car's lack of a decent powertrain; it is currently available with long-running Vauxhall 1.2- or 1.4-litre petrol units.

No, I'm not going to lament the lack of a diesel, as it wouldn't be light enough or cost-effective for a small car like this; the issue is more that neither launch engine is perky or economical enough at present and will surely make way for new tech that Vauxhall is readying for the market.

VAUXHALL ADAM 1.2 JAM START/STOP: £11,550

FACT FILE



Driving appeal:	★★★
Image:	★★★★★
Space:	★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★★
How green?:	★★★★
Road tax:	£30/year (zero year one)
Best rival:	BMW Mini
Kent dealers:	
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Rainham	01634 376526

BEAUTIFUL BOY: In a world where image is key, the Vauxhall Adam is sure to be a hit, with high hopes that the tech will soon develop to live up to the look

The Adam is also a compact city car, so boot space and rear leg and headroom are piffling, but then key rivals are hardly better.

Do these criticisms matter, though? No. For, as my 'recruitment summary' alludes, the Adam fits the bill visually.

And looks, image and style are far more important than the driving experience for prospective buyers in the handbag/manbag motor sector, where it has been designed to attack cars like the Citroën DS3, Fiat 500 and Mini.

In such company, good packaging was the obvious priority – chassis tweaks and better powertrains can come later.

And Vauxhall seems to have outdone the opposition, with a million and one customisation options so that no Adam need look the same as the next.

Even the bread-and-butter Jam version looks well equipped and classy for the youngest and

least well-off Adam-buyers. For those with more cash to spare, there's the Glam version – aimed at the ladies – while the guys' model is called the Slam.

As you can see, there are lots of positive 'mmmmms' in any conversation about the car and the clever marketing has even spilled over to the paint palette, with movies inspiring some: anyone for I'll Be Black, Purple Fiction, James Blonde, Saturday White Fever and Buzz Lightgreen?

However, as I've written previously, I'm not sure about the wisdom of giving a car an actual name when so many buyers in this market sector name their car anyway – and how confusing would it be to call your Adam, Eve?

Seriously, though, this is a clever small car adhering well to Vauxhall's upmarket ambitions. It just needs a bit more driving panache and some better engines.

First GEAR MOTORING NEWS



Peugeot gets a grip in style

ORDER books are open for Peugeot's stylish new 2008 Crossover, arriving in July and priced from £12,995.

Rather than offering 4x4 versions, the French marque has chosen to fit its proven front-wheel-drive Grip Control feature as standard on upmarket Allure and Feline models. There is also an ultra eco version offering a road-tax-exempt 98gm/km of CO2 emissions.



Auris Hybrid is the greenest

TOYOTA claims to have created the family hatchback with the lowest CO2 emissions (84g/km).

It's the petrol-electric Auris Hybrid Icon (£19,995) and its green halo has been polished by better aerodynamics from fins in the rear windows.

Sales of the British-built new-generation Auris (from £14,495) overall are currently 31 per cent up, largely due to smarter styling than before.



Passat range is realigned

VOLKSWAGEN has added to its company-car star, the Passat saloon and estate, by introducing the racy R-Line trim level (from £22,470) and adding a 1.4-litre petrol engine.

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Please note that CVs will not be considered.
The closing date for all applications is 5pm, Thursday 6th June 2013.

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Baileys Nissan - Sales Executive - Trainee Sales Executive Canterbury, Kent

Due to continued sales growth and our newly extended show-room, we have vacancies for an additional Sales Executive and a **Trainee Sales Executive**.

Both roles will require candidates to demonstrate a positive, confident and proactive approach to the delivery of the best standards of customer service.

Sales Executive

Experience at a franchised dealership is essential in this role as we are seeking someone to "hit the ground running" and deliver excellent customer service immediately.

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A comprehensive sales and operations training programme will be available for the successful candidate to learn all aspects of car sales. This is a "hands on" role in the sales operation including photographing cars, handling web enquiries, moving cars and greeting customers.

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LEGAL AND PUBLIC NOTICES

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

MITCHAM BUILDING SUPPLIES LTD of MBS House, 80 Eddington Lane, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 5TR is applying for a license to use MBS House, 80 Eddington Lane, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 5TR as an operating centre for 2 goods vehicles and 0 trailers

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence

MBS (Gillingham) Ltd of Sarena House, Bredgar Road, Gillingham, Kent ME8 6PL is applying for a license to use Sarena House, Bredgar Road, Gillingham, Kent ME8 6PL as an operating centre for 4 goods vehicles and 0 trailers

Owners or occupiers of land (including buildings) near the operating centre(s) who believe that their use or enjoyment of that land would be affected, should make written representations to the Traffic Commissioner at Hillcrest House, 386 Harehills Lane, Leeds, LS9 6NF, stating their reasons, within 21 days of this notice. Representatives must at the same time send a copy of their representations to the applicant at the address given at the top of this notice. A Guide to Making Representations is available from the Traffic Commissioner's office.

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PLANNING

Planning applications



Notice under Article 13 of the Town & Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010
Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA/13/00776/LB: 6 Stour Street, Canterbury, CT1 2NR Replacement of defective soffit to entrance passageway. **Applicant: Mr L Waite**
Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA/13/00879/FUL: Hollow Tree Lodge, North Stream, Marshside, Chislehurst, CT3 4EE Erection of front porch and alterations to the vehicular access including the formation of a new opening and removal of wall to front of property. **Applicant: Mr K Royer** Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00894/FUL: Hoath Village Hall, Church Road, Hoath, CT3 4LA Extension to existing main hall to accommodate increased demand for use by villagers. **Applicant: Mr A Campbell-Walter** Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00897/FUL: Holmdene, Priory Lane, Herne Bay, CT6 5UH Loft conversion with three pitched roof dormers to rear of property. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs S Turner** Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00908/FUL: The Windmill, Millers Court, Whitstable, CT5 4QB New (replacement) gates. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs A Leith**
Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.
CA/13/00912/FUL: 4 Cromwell Road, Whitstable, CT5 1NW Single-storey extension to rear/side of dwelling, alterations to garage roof and provision of block paving to frontage including removal of part of front boundary wall. **Applicant: Miss Stuart-Smith** Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00916/FUL: Helios House, The Street, Barham, CT4 6NZ Lowering of existing boundary wall to improve egress safety. **Applicant: Mrs J Crux** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA/13/00917/FUL: The Manor House, Hardres Court Road, Upper Hardres, CT4 6EL Shed to side of garage to house ground source boiler equipment and emergency generator. **Applicant: Lord Simon Marks** Reason: Setting of listed building in conservation area.
CA/13/00922/FUL: 139 Chestfield Road, Chestfield, CT5 3LS Loft conversion including height increase for roof ridge, gable ends replacing hipped roof and a rear dormer. **Applicant: Mr S Thompson** Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00927/FUL: 50 Cavendish Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5BB Replacement windows to the front elevation. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Taylor**
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00929/FUL: St Edmund's School, St Thomas Hill, Canterbury, CT2 8HU Insertion of new windows (relating to conversion of an existing building for use as Sanatorium). **Applicant: St Edmund's School** Reason: Affects the setting of a listed building.
CA/13/00930/LB: St Edmund's School, St Thomas Hill, Canterbury, CT2 8HU Insertion of new windows (relating to conversion of an existing building for use as Sanatorium). **Applicant: St Edmund's School** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA/13/00938/FUL: 33 The Street, Kingston, CT4 6JE Erection of a conservatory to rear of dwelling. **Applicant: Mr C Horton**
Reason: Conservation area.
CA/13/00942/FAM: Outside Whitstable Railway Station, Old Bridge Road, Whitstable, CT5 1PD Installation of telecommunications equipment cabinet. **Applicant: Openreach** Reason: Conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to development.management@canterbury.gov.uk to arrive on or before **Monday 17 June 2013**.

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 24 May 2013

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL Town and Country Planning Act Notice of Applications

MA/13/0432/N - 4, COLMAN PARADE, KING STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1DJ - Change of use of ground floor to a mixed use of a restaurant and takeaway, and installation of extract flue. **Reason: 2**

MA/13/0566/S - LAND NORTH & SOUTH OF WALLIS AVENUE, MAIDSTONE, KENT - Application for the discharge of reserved matters of phase 2 of application (ref: MA/12/1052) for the erection of 41 houses, 36 flats and commercial/retail area. **Reason: 6, 7**

MA/13/0704/S - THE BARN, GREAT CHEVENEY FARM, GOUDHURST ROAD, MARDEN, TONBRIDGE, KENT, TN12 9LX - An application for listed building consent for Conversion of garden store to holiday unit. **Reason: 3**

MA/13/0723/N - LEDIAN FARM, UPPER STREET, LEEDS, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1RZ - An application for a new planning permission to replace extant outline planning permission MA/09/1514 (Outline application for the erection of 64 bed residential care home with 7 close care bungalows, day centre with 6 close care apartments, conversion of Ledian Oast to provide two dwellings and erection of 12 dwellings with access and garaging. With access considered across the site at this stage and appearance, layout and scale to be considered in respect of the 12 dwellings and oast conversion. Landscaping reserved for future consideration across the site) in order to extend the time limit for implementation. **Reason: 1, 2, 6**

MA/13/0724/N - PILGRIMS RETREAT, HOGBARN LANE, HARRIETSHAM, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1NZ - Application to vary condition 4 of MA/96/1132 to allow an expansion of the area used for siting static caravans and operational development to alter land levels (partly retrospective). **Reason: 6**

Reasons for advertisement key:

- 1 - Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
- 2 - Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
- 3 - Application is for Listed Building Consent.
- 6 - Application is Major Development.
- 7 - Application affects a Public Right of Way.

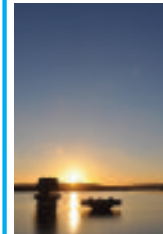
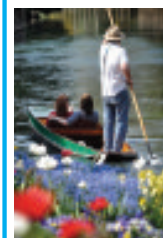


Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm, and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **9th June 2013**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman, Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 26th May 2013.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990 **KCC/AS/0159/2013 - Proposed development at Wittersham CEP School, The Street, Wittersham, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 7EA**

Governors of Wittersham CE Primary School are applying to the Kent County Council for planning permission for renewal of planning permission for a mobile classroom (for joint use by Wittersham CEP School and Stepping Stones Nursery). The proposed development is within the Wittersham Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance and also affects the setting of a listed building.

You may view this application via a computer link at the following locations: (a) Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford; and (b) Tenterden Gateway, 2 Manor Row, High Street, Tenterden.

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION ACCOMPANIED BY AN ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

**KCC/SH/0381/2011 - Proposed development at
Dungeness Borrow Pit, Dungeness, Romney Marsh,
Kent, TN29 9NA**

EDF Energy Nuclear Generation Ltd and the Environment Agency has submitted further environmental information under regulation (22) of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011 in support of application reference KCC/SH/0381/2011 for shingle recycling for the purpose of flood defence. The original application was accompanied by an environmental statement. The proposed development is within the Dungeness Conservation Area and is likely to affect its character and/or appearance. The proposed development also affects a public right of way.

You may view the further information at Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY.

Members of the public may obtain copies of the environmental statement from Halcrow Group, Burderop Park, Swindon, SN4 0QD Tel: 01793 816360 so long as stocks last, at a reasonable charge.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the Borough/District Council website.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 26 May 2013



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PLANNING



TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 10 JUNE 2013

SW/13/0294:
Listed Building Consent to replace all windows & glass doors (most rotten or leaking), at rear of property. Like for like - but made in Oak, all matching - Moss House, Nouds Lane, Lynsted, SITTINGBOURNE; REASON 2

SW/13/0477 &
SW/13/0478:
Removal of old extensions and provision of a new extension to provide a 2-bedroom gate lodge - Davington Priory, Priory Road, Davington, FAVERSHAM; REASONS 1 & 2

SW/13/0498:
Demolition of existing shed and construction of one new house with parking area for two cars - Land to the rear of 20-32 Tanners Street, FAVERSHAM; REASONS 1 & 2

SW/13/0501:
Proposed controlled atmosphere fruit store with associated hard standing and extension to general purpose building to provide office, wc's and laundry - Howt Green Farm, Sheppey Way, BOBBING; REASONS 3 & 4

SW/13/0521:
Installation of wrought iron gates to front of property (Retrospective) - 37 St Marys Road, FAVERSHAM; REASON 1

SW/13/0530:
Single storey rear extension and replacement of slate roof on main house - 42 Norman Road, FAVERSHAM; REASON 1

SW/13/0568:
Application to replace an extant planning permission SW/08/1124 (Demolition of existing buildings and redevelopment of site to provide 12, two bedroom apartments, 14, one bedroom apartments, amenity space, 26, parking spaces and cycle store and new vehicular access) in order to extend the time limit for implementation - 153 London Road, SITTINGBOURNE; REASON 3

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2012 Notice Under Article 11 of Application for Planning Permission.

Proposed development at:

Land alongside footpath and cycleway between Dowding Way and Nell's Bridge adjacent to Kent County Council Recycling Centre and car show room.

Take Notice that an application is being made by:

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Mr David Scully Landscape Officer

For Planning Permission to:

Erect two sculptures in the form of a tree(s) fabricated from Corten Steel to a maximum 4.5m high and 2.0m wide on a concrete base. Sculptures to be placed close to but will not interfere with the footpath/cycleway and will be located close to the junction with Dowding Way.

Local Planning Authority to whom the application is being submitted:

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall
Royal Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN1 1RS

Any owner of the Land or tenant who wishes to make representations about this application, should write to the council within 21 days of the date of this Notice.



THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y13/0390/SH - 13A Sandgate High Street Sandgate Folkestone Kent CT20 3BD - Erection of a rear dormer window and other roof alterations and extensions

Y13/0405/SH - 4 Majestic Parade Sandgate Road Folkestone Kent CT20 2BZ - Change of use of ground floor from hairdressers (class A1) to estate agent (class A2)

Y13/0448/SH+ - 2 Twiss Avenue Hythe Kent CT21 5NU - Works to trees situated within a conservation area comprising the reduction in height of two Spruce trees to 3 metres above ground level.

Y13/0360/SH# - Land Opposite Old Mill Cottage (Former Lympe Airfield) Aldington Road Lympe Kent - Outline application for the development of 250 dwellings, village green, a local centre comprising two retail (Class A1/A3) units and a GP surgery (Class D1), public open space and playing fields together with vehicular access, car parking and landscaping (matters relating to access only).

Y13/0437/SH# - Channel View Dungeness Road Dungeness Romney Marsh Kent - Extension time limit of planning permission Y09/0746/SH and conservation area consent Y09/0982/SH for the erection of a single storey dwelling around the existing railway carriage. Following demolition of existing building.

Y13/0420/SH - Tolsford Hill Relay Station Westfield Lane Etchinghill Folkestone Kent - Installation of six new replacement antennas and 2 No. 600mm dish antennas upon existing support poles, together with ancillary works (Telecommunications development).

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

- # - The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney
- + - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at <http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/>.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning
Shepway District Council

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TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 PLANNING APPLICATIONS LISTED BUILDING CONSENTS CONSERVATION AREA CONSENTS

DOV/13/00360	Outline application for the erection of 28 dwellings (30% affordable housing) and construction of vehicular access Land to rear of, Archers Court Road, Whitfield, CT16 3HP	MAR
DOV/13/00311	Installation of replacement windows and doors, painting of front garage door and construction of hardstanding 33 Whitefriars Meadow, Sandwich, CT13 9AS	CON
DOV/13/00334	Change of use to single residential dwelling 7 Church Street, Dover, CT16 1LY	CON
DOV/13/00368	Removal of condition 3 of planning permission DOV/95/00347 for the removal of the named occupant Land at Street Farm, Wootton Lane, Wootton, Canterbury, CT4 6RP	CON
DOV/13/00337	Erection of a first floor rear extension and a detached coach house Honeysuckle Cottage, Brooke Street, Ash, Sandwich, CT3 2NP	ARW
DOV/12/00813	Erection of replacement dwelling (existing dwelling and garage to be demolished) Northfield, Church Path, Mongeham, Deal, CT14 0HH	ARW
DOV/13/00275	Change of use and conversion of first floor to flat, construction of external staircase and balcony to front and associated external alterations 71A High Street, Deal, CT14 7HB	CON
DOV/13/00328	Change of use and conversion of ground, first and second floors to a maisonette, construction of rear balcony, erection of railings to front and associated external alterations 42 Victoria Road, Deal, CT14 7BQ	CON
DOV/13/00357	Creation of a rear staircase 6 Deal Castle Road, Deal, CT14 7BB	CON
DOV/13/00366	Erection of a detached dwelling and car port to include associated landscaping and car parking Lagan Restaurant, 60 The Street, Ash, Sandwich, CT3 2EW	SLC
DOV/13/00373	Installation of replacement windows and doors, insertion of vents and flue, new guttering, replacement lead roof to dormer, painting of front and removal of shutters and associated internal and external alterations 163 Middle Street, Deal, CT14 6LL	LCN
DOV/13/00374	Installation of replacement windows and doors, insertion of vents and flue, replacement rear steps and railings, new guttering, replacement lead roof to dormer, painting of front, removal of shutters and associated internal and external alterations 163 Middle Street, Deal, CT14 6LL	LCN

Reason for Advert Codes:-

SLC - To affect setting of a Listed Building & Conservation Area

CON - In a Conservation Area

MAR - Major Development & affects a Public Right of Way

ARW - Affects a Public Right of Way LCN - Listed Building in a Conservation Area

Some applications are not publicised in this list. All applications may be inspected at the Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, to which address any representations (to include a postal address) should be sent within 21 days marked "for the attention of Planning". Applications may also be viewed, and comments on applications may be made on our website www.dover.gov.uk/planning or at Dover Gateway, 71 Castle Street, Dover, Deal Library or the Area Office, The Guildhall, Sandwich

Failure to meet the above deadline may jeopardise the chances of representations being considered. Any representations received may be made available for inspection by the public, and may be copied to others, including the secretary of state and the applicant if there is an appeal against the council's decision. Representations will not be acknowledged until an application has been determined.

Please note that the Council does not accept any responsibility for any incomplete or inaccurate description of any application.

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

13/01103/HOUSE	60 London Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Culverden
- Extension of Time - Addition of rear verandah and new external steps/balustrading (Planning permission TW/10/01091 refers) (LB) (CA)	
13/01198/FUL	Tourist Information Centre The Old Fish Market, Pantiles & St Marks
- Change of use from Tourist Information Centre to licensed restaurant and cafe including external and internal alterations (LB) (CA)	
13/01199/LBC	Tourist Information Centre The Old Fish Market, Pantiles & St Marks
- Listed Building Consent - Change of use from Tourist Information Centre to licensed restaurant and cafe including external and internal alterations (LB)	
13/01201/HOUSE	9 Little Mount Sion Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Two storey rear extension (CA)	
13/01238/HOUSE	5 Warwick Park Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Reduction of existing terrace to create flat garden area to rear and associated works (CA)	
13/01197/HOUSE	8 The Meads Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park
- Summer house (Retrospective) (CA)	
13/01237/FUL	Asquith Nurseries Limited Woodlands Pre School & Nursery, Southborough Town Council
- Replacement of existing bin store fence with secure timber bin store cabinet (CA)	
13/01262/HOUSE	Magnolia House Holden Road, Southborough Town Council
- Extension of Time: Two storey rear extension (TW/10/01986/HOUSE refers) (CA)	
13/01058/REMMJ	Spire Tunbridge Wells Hospital Fordcombe Road, Speldhurst
- Reserved Matters (Access, Appearance, Landscaping and Layout) - Extensions and alterations to existing hospital and provision of 48 net additional parking spaces (TW/10/01811/OUTMJ refers) (MAJOR) (LB)	
13/01113/FUL	9 Beulah Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, St James
- Single storey side and rear extension in connection with conversion of property from two flats to form one dwelling (CA)	

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

James Freeman
Head of Planning Services, Tunbridge Wells Borough Council
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS
Dated: 25 May 2013



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PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - IN THE CITY OF CANTERBURY

NOTICE OF THE MAKING OF AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH CC12 IN THE CITY OF CANTERBURY
PUBLIC FOOTPATH CC12 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order the effect of which is to temporarily close Public Footpath CC12 between Beaconsfield Road and its junction with Public Right of Way CC9 from the 20th May 2013. The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 1st June 2013.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is via Beaconsfield Road and Public Footpath CC9 and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Louise Adams
Contact centre no. 045 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE & MALLING

NOTICE OF CONFIRMATION OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER
HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH MU12 (PART) AT TONBRIDGE)
PUBLIC PATH EXTINGUISHMENT ORDER 2013

On 15th May 2013 The Kent County Council confirmed the above Order under Section 118 of the Highways Act 1980.

The effect of that Order as confirmed is to extinguish the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered MU12 which commences at its connection with London Road (B245) at NGR TQ 5822 4761 (point A on the Order plan) and runs north-north-eastwards for 104 metres to NGR TQ 5824 4771 (point B on the Order plan). Between the points A-B on the Order plan.

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order as confirmed and the Order Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4YT or at the Kent County

Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there at the price of £5.

The Order comes into force on 12th June 2013, but if a person aggrieved by the Order wants to question its validity, or that of any provision contained in it, on the ground that it is not within the powers of the Highways Act 1980, as amended, or on the ground that any requirement of the Act, as amended, or of any regulation made under the Act which has not been complied with in relation to the Order, he or she may under Paragraph 2 of Schedule 2 to the Act as applied by Paragraph 5 of Schedule 6 to the Act, within 6 weeks from the 26th May 2013, make an application to the High Court.

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH WB10

PUBLIC FOOTPATH WB10 (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath WB10, between Addison Road and Sandhurst Road from the 10th June 2013.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen by 10th October 2013.

The path is to be closed because there is a likelihood of danger to users during works to remove the gasholders.

The alternative route is along the footway of Addison Road and Sandhurst Road and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact Jonathan Bibby
Contact Centre no. 0845 3450210

Or for further details on temporary closures on the Rights of Way network see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

Public Rights of Way and Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX

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HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS - EAST KENT AREA

HIGH SPEED ROADS, EAST KENT (50 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the public and workforce during maintenance works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order to impose a temporary mandatory speed limit of 50 mph on high speed (dual carriageway) roads in East Kent from 10 June 2013 for up to 1 year, as shown below.

The Order applies when works are being carried and the relevant 50 mph speed limit signs are displayed on site.

This affects both carriageways of the dual carriageway roads shown below, where the existing speed limit exceeds 50 mph.

This includes, but is not limited to, all general maintenance and repairs, drainage and lighting works, litter picking and vegetation cutting.

The roads and extents of roads affected are as follows.

A20 FOUGERES WAY, ASHFORD - from the A20 Maidstone Road (Drivers Roundabout) to the roundabout at Junction 9 of the M20

A20 MAIDSTONE ROAD, ASHFORD - From Orchard Heights Roundabout to the junction with Sandyhurst Lane

A2042 ROMNEY MARSH ROAD, ASHFORD

- From the A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road to the Roundabout with Malcolm Sargent Road
- From the roundabout with Malcolm Sargent Road to the existing 40 mph speed restriction 250 metres from the Forestall Meadow Roundabout
- From the roundabout with Malcolm Sargent Road to the existing 40 mph speed restriction 250 metres south of the roundabout with the B2229 Norman Road

LYDDEN HILL, LYDDEN, DOVER - from junction with the A2 to the junction with Swanton Lane

A256 WHITFIELD BYPASS / DOVER ROAD - from the junction with the A2 to the Roundabout junction with Eastry Bypass

A256 SANDWICH BYPASS - from the dual carriageway section to the west of the roundabout junction with Monks Way to the existing 50 mph speed limit to the south of the roundabout junction with Ramsgate Road

A256 RICHBOROUGH WAY - from the national speed limit / 50 mph sign to the roundabout junction with Hengist way

A299 HENGIST WAY - from the junction with the A299 Canterbury Road West to the existing 50 mph / national speed limit sign

A299 THANET WAY - from the M2 Brenley Corner Roundabout to Monkton Roundabout (junction with A299 Canterbury Road West / A253 Canterbury Road)

A299 CANTERBURY ROAD WEST - from Monkton Roundabout to the junction with A299 Hengist Way

A28 CANTERBURY ROAD, THANET - from the A299 Thanet Way to Seamark Road, Birchington

HIGHWAYS - ASHFORD AREA

A20 MAIDSTONE ROAD, ASHFORD (10 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the public and workforce during works to apply High Friction Surfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order imposing a temporary maximum speed limit of 10 miles per hour on the A20 Maidstone Road, Ashford, on or after 30 May 2013 for up to 1 night between 19:00 hours through until 05:00 hours.

This affects the southbound carriageway for a distance of 250 metres leading up to Orchard Heights Roundabout.

The Order applies when the relevant signs are on display, and is in conjunction with temporary traffic lights and a "Convoy System" to escort traffic through the roadworks.

The speed limits will only apply when the convoy working is in place, and the relevant signs are displayed on site.

VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD AREA (SURFACE DRESSING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER JUNE 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

As part of a programme of carriageway surfacing dressing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads in the Ashford District, on or after 1 June 2013 as shown below.

The roads affected, planned dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below.

It is planned that these works will be carried out between 08:30 hours and 17:30 hours each day, with the roads re-opened outside these hours

LOWER ENSDEN ROAD, CHILHAM - closed between Selling Road and Lower Lees Road

1 June 2013

Alternative route via Selling Road and Lower Lees Road

SOUTHENAY LANE, BRABOURNE - closed between Fiddling Lane and Stone Hill

11 June 2013

Alternative route via Stone Hill, A20 Main Road, Moorstock Lane, Cock Ash Lane and Broad Street

ROMAN ROAD, ALDINGTON - closed between Postling Green and Upper Park Farm

11 June 2013

Alternative route via Church Lane, A20 Ashford Road and Otterpool Lane

B2067 BONNINGTON ROAD, BILSINGTON - closed between Priory Road and Bonnington Cross

11 June 2013

Alternative route via Newchurch Road, Honey Wood Lane and Frogmore Lane.

PRIORY ROAD, BILSINGTON - closed between Frith Road and Bonnington Road

11 & 12 June 2013

Alternative route via Frith Road, Ashford Road and Bonnington Road

COOPERS LANE, MERSHAM - closed between Roman Road and Chequer Tree Farm Road

12 June 2013

Alternative route via Bank Road, Laws Lane, Frith Road and Coopers Lane

BRISLEY LANE, RUCKINGE - closed between Stone Cross Road and Ashford Road

12 June 2013

Alternative route via Stone Cross Road and Ashford Road

BOND LANE, KINGSNORTH - closed between Ashford Road and Church Hill

12 & 13 June 2013

Alternative route via Steeds Lane, Ashford Road and Church Hill

MALTHOUSE LANE, WAREHORNE - closed between Woodchurch Road and Warehorne Road

13th June 2013

Alternative route via Warehorne Road, Ashford Road, Hamstreet Road and Birchett Lane

HAM MILL LANE, WAREHORNE - closed between Ashford Road and Cuckolds Lane

13 June 2013

Alternative route via Cuckolds Lane, Rhee Wall Road and A2070 Ashford Road

MOOR LANE, APPLEDORE - closed between Woodchurch Road and New Bridge

13 & 14 June 2013

Alternative route via Moor Lane, Brook Street, Appledore Road, Bench Hill and Woodchurch Road

HAYCROSS LANE, WOODCHURCH - closed between Brook Street and Susans Hill

14 June 2013

Alternative route via Brook Street and Susan's Hill

POPLAR ROAD, WITTERSHAM - closed between Coombelands and Kingsgate Lane

14 June 2013

Alternative route via Swan Street, Moons Green and Wittersham Road

MAYTHAM ROAD, ROLVENDEN - closed between Pix's Lane and Frog's Lane

14 June 2013

Alternative route via Frogs Lane and Hastings Road

MOCKBEGGAR LANE, BENENDEN - closed between Goddards Green Road and Cranbrook Road

14 June 2013

Alternative route via Goddards Green Road, Benenden Road and Cranbrook Road

LEWD LANE, SMARDEN - closed between Bell Lane and Mount Pleasant Farm

14 June 2013

Alternative route via Bell Lane, Water Lane, Mill Lane and Pluckley Road.

MUNDY BOIS LANE, PLUCKLEY - closed between Mundy Bois Road and Bell Lane

14 June 2013

Alternative route via Mundy Bois Road and The Pinnock

MALMAINS ROAD, PLUCKLEY - closed between Station Road and Surrenden Road

17 June 2013

Alternative route via Station Road, Dowle Street Road and Surrenden Road

RUSHBROOK & DOWLE STREET ROAD, PLUCKLEY - closed between Station Road and Malmains Road

17 June 2013

Alternative route via Station Road and Malmains Road

SURRENDEN ROAD, PLUCKLEY - closed between Swan Lane and Pluckley Road

17 June 2013

Alternative route via Swan Lane, Forge Hill, Station Road and Dowle Street Road

PARK LANE, CHARING - closed between Hunger Hatch Lane and Pivington Lane

17 June 2013

Alternative route via Bell Lane, Water Lane, Mill Lane and Pluckley Road

WOOTTON LANE, CHARING - closed between Westwell Lane and Maidstone Road

17 June 2013

Alternative route via Westweell Lane, Wicken Lane and A20 Ashford Road

NORTON LANE, BETHERSDEN - closed between Pluckley Road and Wissenden Lane

17 June 2013

Alternative route via Wissenden Lane, Church Hill, The Street, Mill Road and Pluckley Road

ETCHDEN ROAD, BETHERSDEN - closed between Park Lane and Bears Lane

17 & 18 June 2013

Alternative route via Park Lane, Vitters Oak Lane and Goldwell Lane

VITTERS OAK LANE, GREAT CHART - closed between Goldwell Lane to Old Surrenden Manor Road

18 June 2013

Alternative route via Goldwell Lane, A28 Ashford Road and Sandy Lane

These works are weather dependent, and adverse conditions may prevent some works going ahead on the dates shown. For any that are postponed, revised dates will be notified locally and signposted on site.

Certain roads may need a brief repeat closure 1-2 weeks after the closures shown above, to allow for replacement of lining, with closures notified by signage on site.

HIGHWAYS - CANTERBURY AREA

THE CAUSEWAY, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Causeway, Canterbury, on or after 10 June 2013, as shown below.

The Causeway will be closed from the junction with Pound Lane to the entrance to Millers' Field (The Causeway) Car Park.

Works are planned to commence from 10 June 2013 to 2 days between 08:00 hours and 17:00 hours each day.

The alternative routes are

Southbound (towards Pound Lane) via North Lane, St Dunstan's Street and Pound Lane

Northbound (towards North Lane) via Pound Lane, St Peter's Place to Rheims Way Roundabout and return to North Lane

Millers' Field (The Causeway) Car Park will be closed on 11 June 2013, during these works.

A291 HERNE STREET, HERNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to upgrade a gas supply, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on A291 Herne Street, Herne, on or after 29 May 2013 as shown below.

It is planned Herne Street will be closed from 29 May 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of the Upper Red Lion Public House, to the north of the junction with School Lane.

There will be no through access between Canterbury and Herne Bay using the A291

The alternative route is via A291 Herne Street, Canterbury Road, Herne Bay Road, Sturry Hill, A28 Island Road, Canterbury Road, St Nicholas Roundabout, A299 Thanet Way, A291 Canterbury Road and Herne Steet.

Access to and from School Lane will remain from a southbound direction.

NORTHWOOD ROAD AREA, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on various side roads at their northern junctions with Northwood Road, Whitstable, on or after 28 May 2013, as shown below.

The following roads will each be closed at their northern junctions with Northwood Road. The roads will be closed in succession, working westwards (i.e. towards Whitstable). The alternative routes to reach Northwood Road are shown alongside.

PIER AVENUE - Tankerton Road and Wynn Road

WYNN ROAD - Tankerton Road and Manor Road

MANOR ROAD - Tankerton Road and Graystone Road

GRAYSTONE ROAD - Tankerton Road and Baddlesmere Road

BADDLESMERE ROAD - Tankerton Road and Fitzroy Road

FITZROY ROAD - Tankerton Road and St Anne's Road

Each junction will be closed for approximately 2 weeks, but this is dependent on weather and ground conditions. The exact dates will be notified to local residents and signposted on site.

SOUTH STREET, WHITSTABLE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of essential carriageway repairs, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on South Street, Whitstable, on or after 30 May 2013 for up to 2 days, between 07:30 hours and 16:30 hours each day.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Chestfield Road and Millstrood Road.

The alternative route is via Millstrood Road, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way and Chestfield Road.

SWEECHBRIDGE ROAD, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway patching and junction modifications, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sweechbridge Road, Herne Bay, on or after 28 May 2013 as shown below.

Sweechbridge Road will be closed for up to 4 days planned to commence from 28 May 2013.

The road will be closed between the junctions with May Street and Neville Road, with no through access between A299 Thanet Way and Reculver and Beltinge.

The alternative route is via A299 Thanet Way, Margate Road and Reculver Road.

The first 2 days are for carriageway patching and repairs in the vicinity of the railway bridge. The second 2 days are for junction modifications at the junction with Neville Road. Neville Road will be closed at this junction, with access remaining from Barnes Way.

VARIOUS ROADS, CANTERBURY (SURFACE DRESSING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER JUNE 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

As part of a programme of carriageway Surface Dressing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads throughout the Canterbury District, on or after 1 June 2013 as shown below.

The roads affected, planned dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below.

Roads will be closed between 07:30 hours and 16:30 hours each day, except where otherwise stated.

NEW TOWN STREET, CHARTHAM closed for its entire length (junctions with Howfield Road and Hatch Lane)

1 June 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via Hatch Lane, Town Lane, Howfield Lane

BIGBURY ROAD, HARBLEDOWN closed for its entire length (junctions with Howfield Lane and Faulknors Lane)

1 June 2013 for up to 2 days, 09:30 - 15:30 hours

Alternative route via Faulknors Lane A2050, A2050 Rheims Way, A290, Rheims Way, A28 Wincheap,

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways & Transportation,
on 0300 333 5539 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

Thanington Road, Ashford Road, and Howfield Lane
FAULKNERS LANE, HARBLEDOWN closed between the junction with Bigbury Road and the Kent College junior and infant school (access to school will be maintained from the A2050 at all times)

2 June 2013 for 1 day - 09:30 - 15:30 hours

Alternative route via Bigbury Road, Howfield Lane, A28 Ashford Road, Thanington Road, Wincheap, A290 / A2050 Rheims Way and A2050 Harbledown Bypass

NEW HOUSE LANE, CHARTHAM closed for its entire length (junctions with Chartham Downs Road and Hollow Lane)

2 June 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via Merton Lane, Iffin Lane, Chartham Downs Road

KENFIELD ROAD, PETHAM closed for its entire length (junctions with Chartham Downs Road and Garlinge Green Road)

2 June 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via Chartham Downs Road and Garlinge Green Road

HOGG LANE, UPPER HARDRES closed for its entire length (junctions with Stone Street B2068 and Bow Hill)

2 June 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via Stone Street B2068, Lime Kiln Lane, Hardres Court Road and Bow Hill

PETT BOTTOM ROAD, BRIDGE closed for its entire length (between junctions with Bridge Road and School Lane)

2 June 2013 for up to **2 days**

Alternative route via Bridge Road, Hardres Court Road and School Lane

WOODGATE, KINGSTON closed for its entire length (between junctions with Pett Bottom Road and Crows Camp Road).

3 June 2013 for up to **1 day**

Alternative route via Pett Bottom Road, Westwood Road, Pheasants Hall Road

WESTWOOD ROAD, KINGSTON will be closed between the junctions with Jesse's Hill and The Street.

3 June 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via Westwood Road, Turks Hill and Marley Lane

MARLEY LANE, KINGSTON closed for its entire length (between junctions with Jess Hill and The Street.

3 June 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via Marley Lane, Covet Lane and Valley Road

COVET LANE, BARHAM closed for its entire length (between junctions with Valley Road and Cole Hill

3 June 2013 for up to **2 days**

Alternative route via Valley Road, The Street and Marley Lane

COLE HILL, BARHAM closed for its entire length (between junctions with Covet Lane and Railway Hill.

4 June 2013 for up to **1 day**

Alternative route via Covet Lane, Valley Road and Green Hills

SOUTH BARHAM HILL, BARHAM closed for its entire length (between junctions with Derringtonstone Hill to Junction at Bladbean)

4 June 2013 for up to **1 day**

Alternative route via Elham Valley Road and Straight Hill

OLD DOVER ROAD, BARHAM closed for its entire length (between junctions with Gravel Castle Road to the end of Road (past Rectory Lane)

4 June 2013 for up to **2 days**

Alternative route via Rectory Lane, The Street, Valley Road, Derringtonstone Hill and Gravel Castle Road

OLD PALACE ROAD, BEKESBOURNE closed for its entire length

4 June 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via School Lane, Station Road, The Street and Keeper's Hill

OUT ELMSTEAD LANE, BARHAM closed for its entire length (between junctions with A2 Dover Road and Valley Road)

5 June 2013 for up to **1 day**

Alternative route via A2 Dover Road, Black Robin Lane and Valley Road

CARTER ROAD, BEKESBOURNE closed for its entire length (between junctions with The Street and School Lane)

5 June 2013

Alternative route via The Street, Station Road and School Lane

CHERVILLE LANE & SCHOOL LANE, ICKHAM closed for its entire length (between junctions with A257 and Wingham Road

5 June 2013

Alternative route via A257 Canterbury Road and Wingham Road

BRITTON FARM ROAD, ICKHAM closed for its entire length (as far as Private Road)

5 June 2013 for 1 day

No alternative route; every effort will be made to

maintain access whenever it is safe to do so. There will be some times when this is not possible, with resultant delays.

BAYE LANE, ICKHAM closed for its entire length (between junctions with Seaton Road and Wickham Lane

5 June 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via Wickham Lane and Seaton Road

COURT HILL & CHURCH ROAD, LITTLEBOURNE closed for entire length

5 June 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via Nargate Street, A257 Canterbury Road and Stodmarsh Road

CONYNGHAM LANE, BRIDGE closed for its entire length

5 June 2013 for 1 day

There is no alternative route as the road is a cul-de-sac

LOWER HERNE ROAD, HERNE BAY closed for its entire length (between junctions with Canterbury Road and junction with Bullockstone Road)

6 June 2013 for 1 day

Alternative route via Bullockstone Road and A291 Canterbury Road

MOLEHILL ROAD, HERNE BAY closed for its entire length (between junctions with Thornden Wood Road and Chestfield Road)

6 June 2013 for up to **2 days**

Alternative Route via Thornden Wood Road, Greenhill Road, A2990 (Old) Thanet Way and Chestfield Road

RECULVER LANE, RECULVER closed for its entire length (between junctions with Brook Lane to Fort Reculver)

7 June 2013 for 1 day

There is no alternative route; every effort will be made to maintain access whenever it is safe to do so. There will be some times when this is not possible, with resultant delays

These works are weather dependent, and adverse conditions may prevent some works going ahead on the dates shown. For any that are postponed, revised dates will be notified locally and signposted on site.

Certain roads may need a brief repeat closure 1-2 weeks after the closures shown above, to allow for replacement of lining, with closures notified by signage on site.

HIGHWAYS - DOVER AREA

A258 DOVER ROAD, WALMER, DEAL (10 MPH SPEED LIMIT) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the public and workforce during works to apply High Friction Surfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order imposing a temporary maximum speed limit of 10 miles per hour on the A258 Dover Road, Walmer, Deal, on or after 28 May 2013 for up to 2 nights, between 19:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night.

This affects both carriageways of the following sections of Dover Road

A258 DOVER ROAD, WALMER, between the junctions with Belmont and Station Road

A258 DOVER ROAD, RINGWOULD, for a distance of 50 metres either side of the junction with Ripple Road

The Order applies when the relevant signs are on display, and is in conjunction with temporary traffic lights and a "Convoy System" to escort traffic through the roadworks.

The speed limits will only apply when the convoy working is in place, and the relevant signs are displayed on site.

HIGHWAYS - GRAVESHAM AREA

CRETE HALL ROAD, NORTHFLEET (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because Road Traffic Solutions require a cherry picker to gain access to the telecom tower, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Crete Hall Road, Northfleet, on or after 11th June 2013 for up to 1 day between the hours of 9.30and 15.30 until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside telecom tower.

There is no diversion in place

HIGHWAYS - MAIDSTONE AREA

CHART HILL ROAD, CHART SUTTON/BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT Openreach working on overhead network cables, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Chart Hill Road, Chart Sutton/Boughton Monchelsea on or after 28 May 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Lower Farm Road to

outside Lord Raglan Pub.

The alternative route is via A229 Staplehurst Road/Linton Hill, B2163 Heath Road, Park Lane, Back Lane, Amber Lane, Chart Hill Road.

HIGHWAYS - SEVENAOKS AREA

BOUGH BEECH ROAD, FOUR ELMS, HEVER, SEVENAOKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of high friction surface and road markings, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bough Beech Road, Four Elms, Sevenoaks, on or after 31st May 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Four Elms Road/Ide Hill Road/Pootings Road south-east for a distance of 500 metres (to "Dunmore"). There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via Clinton Lane, Chequers Hill, Hever Road, High Street (Edenbridge), Mont St Aignan Way, Station Road, B2027 Four Elms Road and Vice Versa.

FOUR ELMS ROAD, HEVER, SEVENAOKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of high friction surface and road markings, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Four Elms Road, Hever, Sevenoaks, on or after 1st June 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Pootings Road/Ide Hill Road/Bough Beech Road south west for a distance of 60 metres (to Four Elms Petrol Station). There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via Swan Lane, B2026 Main Road, B269 Spout Lane, B269 Pootings Road and vice versa.

IDE HILL ROAD, FOUR ELMS, HEVER, SEVENAOKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of high friction surface and road markings, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Ide Hill Road, Four Elms, Hever, Sevenoaks, on or after 2nd June 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Pootings Road/Four Elms Road/Bough Beech Road north-east for a distance of 80 metres (to Chapel House). There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via B269 Pootings Road, B269 Spout Lane, B2026 Hosey Common Road, A25 Brasted Road/Westerham Road/Main Road, Church Road, Sundridge Road and vice versa.

POOTINGS ROAD, FOUR ELMS, SEVENAOKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of the installation of high friction surface and road markings, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pootings Road, Four Elms, Sevenoaks, on or after 30th May 2013 for up to 1 day or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Four Elms Road/Ide Hill Road/Bough Beech Road north-west for a distance of 210 metres (to Four Elms Farm). There will be no access for through traffic at this location.

The alternative route is via B2027 Four Elms Road, Swan Lane, B2026 Main Road, B269 Spout Lane and Vice Versa.

HIGHWAYS - SHEPWAY AREA

BOARMAN'S LEVEL CROSSING, TICKNER'S LANE, ROMNEY MARSH (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to resurface the level crossing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Boarman's Level Crossing, Tickner's Lane,

Romney Marsh, on or after 29 May 2013 as shown below.

The road will be closed on Wednesday 29 May from 09:00 hours until 16:00 hours.

The alternative route is via Barnhouse Lane, Tillery Lane, A259 Rhee Wall and Tickner's Lane.

CHURCH ROAD, NEW ROMNEY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of drainage and carriageway repairs to alleviate flooding, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Road, New Romney, on or after 10 June 2013, as shown below.

Church Road will be closed outside 'Cranmore' (to the east of the junction with Lydd Road), with no through access between the junctions with A259 Lydd Road and Church Lane.

Works are planned to commence from 10 June 2013 to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via A259 Lydd Road, High Street and Church Road.

THE GREEN, SALTWOOD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow access to phone cables in carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Green, Saltwood, on or after 28 May 2013 for up to 1 day, between 09:30 hours and 15:30 hours.

The eastern side of The Green will be closed to northbound traffic, with traffic directed to use the other 2 sections of The Green.

SANDLING ROAD, POSTLING, FOLKESTONE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of drainage and carriageway repairs to alleviate flooding, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sandling Road, Postling, Folkestone, on or after 10 June 2013, as shown below.

Works are planned to commence from 10 June 2013 to 3 days, or until the works have been completed.

Sandling Road will be closed between the junctions with the A20 Ashford Road and Cuckoo Lane, with no through access between the A20 and Etchinghill / Lyminge.

The alternative route is via A20 Ashford Road, Beachborough, Canterbury Road and Sandling Road.

HIGHWAYS - SWALE AREA

CROWN QUAY LANE, SITTINGBOURNE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to apply High Friction Surfacing, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Crown Quay Lane, Sittingbourne, on or after 30 May 2013 for up to 2 nights, between 20:00 hours through until 05:00 hours each night.

The road will be closed between the junctions with A2 St Michael's Road and Eurolink Way.

The alternative route is via A2 St Michael's Road, Dover Street, West Street, London Road, Key Street, Sheppey Way, B2006 Staplehurst Road, St Paul's Street, Mill Way, Eurolink Way and Crown Quay Lane

STATION ROW LEVEL CROSSING, TEYNHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of level crossing maintenance, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Station Row Level Crossing, Teynham, on or after 15 June 2013, as shown below.

Station Row will be closed at the Level Crossing.

The planned closure is from Saturday 15 June at 23:59 hours until Sunday 16 June 2013 at 07:20 hours

There is no alternative route. Every effort will be made to maintain access whenever it is safe to do so.

For further information, please contact
Kent County Council Highways & Transportation,
on 0300 333 5539 (local rate)
or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways



HIGHWAYS

**THE STREET, IWADE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of urgent carriageway repairs, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Street, Iwade, on or after 28 May 2013, as shown below.

It is planned that The Street will be closed from Tuesday 28 May 2013 for up to 3 days, from 09:30 hours to 15:30 hours each day.

The road will be closed for its entire length, with no through access through Iwade.

The alternative route is via Ferry Road, Grovehurst Road, A249 Iwade Bypass and Sheppey Way.

**VARIOUS ROADS, SWALE (SURFACE DRESSING)
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER MAY 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway surface dressing works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on various roads in the Swale area, on or after 30 May 2013 as shown below.

Roads will be closed between 08:30 hours and 17:30 hours each day and re-opened outside these times.

The roads affected, dates of closures and alternative routes are as shown below.

BLIND MARY'S LANE, BREDGAR closed between Silver Street and Swanton Street, 30 May 2013

Alternative route via Silver Street, Gore Road and Swanton Street

BOGLE ROAD, LYNSTED - closed between Lynsted Lane and Nouds Lane, 30 May 2013

Alternative route via Lynsted Lane, A2 London Road and Nouds Lane

HIGH OAK HILL, NEWINGTON will be closed between Church Lane and Belnor Avenue, 30 May 2013

Alternative route via Stickfast Lane, Parsonage Lane, Cold Harbour Lane, Rook Lane and Boyces Hill

WISES LANE, BORDEN closed between Cryalls Lane and The Street

30 May 2013

Alternative route via A2 London Road, Borden Lane and The Street

PLUMFORD LANE, THROWLEY closed between Old Baggins Road and Ashford Road, 30 & 31 May 2013

Alternative route via Wilgate Green Road, Old Baggins Road and A251 Ashford Road

FAVERSHAM ROAD, OSPRINGE closed between London Road and the M2 Overbridge, 31 May 2013

Alternative route via Rushett Lane, Provender Lane and A2 London Road

OLD BADGINS ROAD, THROWLEY will be closed between Wilgate Green Road and Ashford Road, 31 May 2013

Alternative route via Wilgate Green Road, Plumford Lane and Ashford Road

OWENS COURT ROAD, SELLING will be closed between Selling Road and New House Lane, 1 June 2013

Alternative route via Selling Road, Featherbed Lane and Winding Hill

HIGHWAYS - THANET AREA**HIGH STREET & NEW STREET, MARGATE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER JUNE 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to provide electricity and water supplies to a new hotel, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on High Street and New Street, Margate, on or after 16 June 2013, as shown below.

Details of the roads affected, planned times and dates of closures and diversions are as follows.

HIGH STREET, MARGATE will be closed for 3 days, between the junctions with Market Street and New Street

Sunday 16 June to Tuesday 18 June 2013

The alternative route is via Market Street, Lombard Street, B2055 Hawley Street and New Street

HIGH STREET & NEW STREET, MARGATE overnight closure of High Street also extending to include junction with New Street; there will then be no access to High Street between junctions between Market Street and Queen Street

Monday 17 June from 18:00 hours through until 06:00 hours

The alternative route is via Market Street, Lombard Street, B2055 Hawley Street, Cecil Square and Queen Street

NEW STREET, MARGATE closed for 3 days at the junction with High Street, with High Street re-opened Wednesday 19 June to Friday 21 June 2013

The alternative route is via B2055 Hawley Street, King Street, The Parade and High Street

**MARKET STREET, MARGATE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of works to re-lay carriageway blocks, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Market Street, Margate, on or after 10 June 2013, as shown below.

Market Street will be closed between the junctions with The Parade and High Street.

Works are planned to commence from 10 June 2013 to 3 days, or until the works have been completed.

The alternative route is via B2051 The Parade, Fort Hill, Fort Road, King Street and The Parade.

The One-way Traffic Order in respect of the part of The Parade (the one-way section fronting shops) will be suspended to allow access.

**NEWINGTON ROAD, RAMSGATE
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway repairs, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on B2014 Newington Road, Ramsgate, on or after 28 May 2013, as shown below.

It is planned that Newington Road will be closed from Tuesday 28 May 2013 for up to 2 nights, between 19:00 hours until midnight each night.

The road will be closed between the junctions with A255 High Street St Lawrence and B2050 Manston Road.

The alternative route is via A2050 Manston Road, A256 Haine Road, A299 Canterbury Road East, A255 Nethercourt Hill and High Street St Lawrence.

**HIGHWAYS - TONBRIDGE & MALLING
AREA****A20 LONDON ROAD, AYLESFORD
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of repairs to the railway bridge, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on A20 London Road, Aylesford on or after 27 May 2013 for up to 7 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between Coldharbour Lane and Beaver Road.

The alternative route is via A20 London Road, A228 Ashton Way/King Hill/Malling Road, A26 Tonbridge Road, Terrace Road, A20 London Road.

**PIERCE MILL LANE, HADLOW (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING)
TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because it is necessary for deck replacement of the bridge, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pierce Mill Lane, Hadlow on or after 27 May 2013 for up to 3 months or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at Barnes Street Bridge.

The alternative route is via Hatches Lane, Tonbridge Road.

HIGHWAYS - TUNBRIDGE WELLS AREA**COLLIERS GREEN ROAD, CRANBROOK
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because it is necessary to replace a telegraph pole, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Colliers Green Road, Cranbrook, on or after 1 June 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from Marden Road to Round Green Lane.

The alternative route is via A262 Goudhurst Road, A229 Wilsley Pound/The Common/Rocks Hill/Cranbrook Road, Pinnock Lane, Goudhurst Road, Folly Hill, Round Green Lane.

**SANDHURST ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS (PROHIBITION
OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because it is necessary to install an electric cable, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Sandhurst Road on or after 15 and 22 June 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed. The environmental 7.5T weight restriction on Birken Lane/Liptraps Lane will also be suspended.

The road will be closed from Upper Grosvenor Road to Clifton Road.

The alternative route is via Sandhurst Road, Birken Road, Liptraps Lane, Lamberts Road, Dowding Way, North Farm Road. For over height vehicles is via Upper Grosvenor Road, Grosvenor Bridge, Quarry Road, Camden Road, Calverley Road, A264 Pembury Road.

**B2079 SUMMERHILL, GOUDHURST
(PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2013****THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984
AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC
(TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991**

Because of carriageway surfacing works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on B2079 Summerhill, Goudhurst, on or after 11 June 2013 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The whole length of the road will be closed.

The alternative route is via Ballards Hill, Goudhurst Road, B2162 Maidstone Road, Sheephurst Lane, B2079 Marden Road/Winchett Hill.

John Burr
Director of Highways & Transportation
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ

Dated 26th May 2013

For further information, please contact
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Sport

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CRICKET



Team ethic more important than personal glory if we're to improve

KOS Media has teamed up with Kent batsman Michael Powell for a column throughout the 2013 season in which the Welshman will give an unrivalled insight into life on and off the pitch with the county.

WELL, it's not been the best of starts in the County Championship for Kent. We've not started at home as we would have liked to, but having highlighted a couple of problems, and with the experience in the dressing room, I'm sure we can come through this sticky patch.

Personally, I feel I have been doing alright: I've had a couple of good knocks without getting the big ones, so hopefully I can start to make a difference.

But you have got to help yourself and start your innings well and, of course, you need a bit of luck. You certainly don't go into a game thinking you are going to score runs – it doesn't work like that. You have got to give yourself a chance, respect the bowling and hopefully it might be your day.

We let ourselves down last week against Worcestershire, but you try not to get too wrapped up in your own performance.

If you make the big score or take the wickets, then so be it, but it's the team performance that counts. The two home games haven't gone well. Alan Richardson bowled very well for Worcestershire, but we have got to get ready in training and switch on during the game.

When we played Worcestershire in the YB40, Ben Harmison took a brilliant catch. Those kind of things can be the difference between winning and losing. Our slip-catching has been excellent.

The boys put a lot of time into it, which is something you don't see behind the scenes.

Harmison's catch was brilliant, and Sam Billings' was very good as well. Harmy's was the better, I think, because it was over his shoulder and he had to stretch.

It also probably helps that Harmy is 10ft tall and no one else would have caught it!

Next week is Tunbridge Wells Week and the boys are all looking forward to it – we really enjoy playing down there. At Glamorgan we used to go to Colwyn Bay and Swansea.

The Nevill has an old-school county-cricket feel to it, something I quite enjoy.

It has even got a Ladies Day when the players pick the best-looking one. I can appreciate a good-looking woman and apparently I'm on the judging panel to pick them. The boys think Harmison and me have got a keen eye for it.

I was hoping my dog Monty was going to come down this week, but he's had an operation on his cruciate ligaments after an awkward fall. They had to break his leg to realign it all.

He's a golden labrador but massive. Actually, he's more part-labrador, part-polar bear.

Hopefully he will be here for the Glamorgan game.

FOOTBALL

Daish: you can't tread water forever or you'll start sinking

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

DEPARTED Ebbsfleet United boss Liam Daish believes the club can have a bright future under the guidance of Kuwaiti investment but hopes lessons have been learnt from a tumultuous period in the Fleet's history.

The popular manager called time on his eight years in charge at Stonebridge Road last week, after talks with Kuwaiti investment group KEH Sports Ltd, which is currently in advanced negotiations to take over the relegated Blue Square Premier side.

There have been plenty of highs and lows during Daish's record-breaking spell in charge, from winning the FA Trophy in 2008 and promotion back to the Blue Square Premier in 2011 to the relegations and continued financial problems under the ownership of web-based membership group MyFootballClub.co.uk.

The latter meant that the 42-year-old had to operate on a shoestring budget as the club lived on a hand-to-mouth basis at times.

"It's been a roller-coaster," he said. "There are some great memories, some really exciting times. There are the one-off games, the FA Trophy and some great results against ex-league sides.

"I sat down and had a long conversation with them [KEH]. It was agreed mutually it was best that there was a change. Everything was done professionally. There are no regrets or problems. I wish them all the best."

KEH Sports Ltd, fronted by former Charlton Athletic chief executive Peter Varney, is undergoing a due-diligence process – entailing final financial and legal checks on its suitability to own the club – with a view to taking over before Friday, May 31.

It would mean some serious investment in the club, with a £100,000 transfer budget and an £8,000-a-week playing budget promised as part of the deal, while there is also talk of planning permission being sought to add a new stand to the ground.

Daish feels it represents an exciting future for the club he joined in 2005, having previously had spells at Havant & Waterlooville as joint boss and Welling United in a coaching role.

"The club needed to have some investment. It

TAKEOVER PROGRESS

THE Kuwaiti takeover of Ebbsfleet United is ongoing, with due diligence still in process.

This week KEH paid overdue wages to staff and players and put money towards refurbishment of the Stonebridge Road pitch.

Peter Varney, who is leading the deal, said: "We have made progress. There are so many different entities to look at."

The club face a winding-up order from Fleet Leisure Ltd over unpaid bills. This is due to be heard at the High Court on Thursday, June 6.

"We are working to get that to go away," he said. "We have to complete due diligence for that to start. That's way up at the top of our shopping list."

"Nothing is easy at Ebbsfleet, but we are doing what we can."

NO REGRETS: Daish leaves Ebbsfleet United following mutual agreement after eight years in charge

needs to change its mentality," he said. "From what I have heard, and what I have read regarding their plans, it's exciting times.

"I think clubs these days need an infrastructure, not just limp along from week to week and month to month.

"For the last three years it's been tough. You can't tread water forever or you'll start sinking.

"I think the whole club needs to change. That's not me saying I didn't want the job. It draws on you and your family, and everything. After the conversation we both got to the same thought.

"I hope the club can go into a new era and hope everybody has learned from the past, because KEH have got big plans."

While many came and went during his eight years in charge, including owners, directors and players, Daish was a constant, with his loyalty leading to a stand at Stonebridge Road being named in his honour last summer.

He revealed it became a tough job with what

became a stream of constant bad news in the final few years.

"You need to draw your energy from somewhere – managers need motivation themselves, it's not just players and supporters. That comes from above," he said.

"In the past it's been self-motivating – that cannot go on forever. The news I usually got was doom and gloom or another problem.

"We had to deal with it. There wasn't too much good news coming through behind the scenes.

"I have dealt with pretty much everything at this club. Some people have hung around and seen it through, others have seen it's too sticky for them and gone. You end up starting all over again with someone else. The experience I have had will stand me in good stead.

"I'm going to take a break, have a holiday and recharge my batteries. I'm not going to rush into anything. I still see myself as a football manager."

Picture: ADY KERRY

SPORTS SHORTS

MOTORSPORT

Motorbase pair set for Silverstone challenge

OMAN Air Motorbase face one of the biggest challenges of the season this weekend during the three-hour race at Silverstone's Grand Prix Circuit.

After a strong run in round three at Rockingham, a two-hour race at the start of May, the team's Porsche 911 GT3R will now contest the Silverstone race with Ahmad Al Harthy and Michael Caine once again behind the wheel.

Following a pair of one-hour free practice sessions on Saturday, May 25, qualifying for the fourth round of the Avon Tyres British GT Championship will take place at 4.50pm.

The race starts at 1pm on Sunday.

ICE HOCKEY

Slovak sharpshooter signs on at Dynamos

INVICTA Dynamos have poached Romford Raiders' goalscorer ace Juraj Huska.

The 31-year-old arrives having spent the last three seasons with the Raiders, during which time he has netted more goals in the National Ice Hockey League South than any other player.

Coach Kevin Parish, who was delighted to sign the Slovakian, said: "For me, Juraj has simply been the best goal-scoring import this league has seen from its start.

"He arrived with Romford three years ago, was an instant hit and two seasons later he's still leading the division in goals. His record with the Raiders is phenomenal and their success in recent seasons owes a lot to his prowess."

SAILING

Round the Island Race awaits Chatham ace

CHATHAM sailor Barry Hunter is set to skipper his crew in next weekend's Round the Island Race.

Hunter will captain his seven-strong crew in the 50-nautical mile race around the Isle of Wight beginning on Saturday, June 1.

It will be the second time he has raced in the event, having previously taken part 25 years ago.

He said: "We are competing for social and competitive reasons, but once the race actually starts it is likely to be solely competitive."

The race starts on the famous Royal Yacht Squadron line in Cowes and it will take most boats between eight and 10 hours to complete, depending on conditions.

Sport

For more sports news and pictures go to www.kentsport.co.uk

CRICKET



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE: Rob Key in the sunshine at The Nevill in 2011, left, and, right, the ground resembles a marsh after last year's devastating floods

Encouraging ticket sales for Kent's annual trip to the Wells

By Greg Miles

greg.miles@archant.co.uk

KENT are all set for their annual trip to the west of the county for the Tunbridge Wells Festival, but there is one key player yet to show his hand – the weather.

The heavens opened at The Nevill last June, leaving it looking more like a swimming pool than a cricket pitch. It set the county back an estimated £50,000 through lost takings on food and drink and ticket sales, although some savings were made through insurance.

Barely any cricket was played as the County Championship tie against Hampshire was abandoned, while the CB40 match against Northants and the t20 game against Sussex went the same way, the latter fixture after being transferred to Canterbury, where it still could not beat the rain at St Lawrence.

Kent chief executive Jamie Clifford is understandably keeping everything crossed for a dry week ahead, with advance ticket sales looking promising on the back of encouraging performances in the YB40 this year.

"Tunbridge Wells is one of those long-term phenomena that we have in our cricketing portfolio," he said. "It's a real celebration of everything that's good about county cricket – because of that, it's in everybody's diaries and our advance sales are very encouraging.

WELLS FIXTURE LIST

Monday, May 27, 1.45pm	
v Netherlands	YB40
Wednesday, May 29, 11am	
v Leicestershire County Championship	
Thursday, May 30	
Ladies Day	
Friday, May 31	
Made in Kent Day	
Sunday, June 2, 1.45pm	
v Northamptonshire	YB40

"We only go to the west of the county one week of the year. It's a chance to see it on your doorstep, therefore it sells well in advance."

The Nevill, famous for its surrounding rhododendrons, has held the festival of cricket for 101 years now, which is why Clifford believes it continues to draw crowds.

"I struggle to think of a better place to watch cricket in that rural setting," he said. "I've not had a rhododendron update yet – that's the question on everybody's lips. It sounds like romantic nonsense, but it's part of it.

"I can assure you I'm keeping everything crossed for a week of good weather – it was hard

last year. It hits the guys who have put so much into staging this event, like the people at The Nevill, people at the borough council – and when it gets washed out it's deflating.

"There was not a lot we could do – we're talking about weather that comes along every 100 years. It turned into a lake – even now I can't believe it was as bad as that.

"It was just impossible. We have got everything crossed and touching wood. I'm deeply superstitious."

For the third year running there is a Made in Kent Day, showcasing the county's finest food and drink alongside the cricket, while the traditional Ladies Day returns.

Before heading to The Nevill on Monday, Kent take on Sussex Sharks in the Yorkshire Bank 40 in Hove on Sunday.

It was Sussex who ended Kent's hopes in the CB40 last season with a crushing nine-wicket win with 60 balls remaining that saw the Sharks book a semi-final tie against Hampshire.

Kent have made a solid start in the 40-over game, with three wins from four matches putting them second in Group A, level on points with Nottinghamshire, who have won all three of their games.

■ **This week Kent agreed a 10-year deal with Shepherd Neame to rename their Canterbury home The Spiffire Ground, St Lawrence. To find out more, see the news pages.**

FOOTBALL

Kent clubs' finances to be hit after FA reveals non-league restructure

SITTINGBOURNE have been moved to Ryman One North for next season after the annual shake-up of non-league football by the FA.

The FA reviews which teams should be playing in which divisions at the end of every campaign and on Friday afternoon it came to a decision about clubs on steps one to four.

It means the Brickies will join Chatham Town in the northern section of the league, along with Erith & Belvedere and VCD Athletic, who have been promoted from the Kent League.

However, while those fixtures are local, there are also long trips as far as Norfolk for the part-timers, which could have disastrous financial consequences, with loss of ticket sales from Kent derbies and an increase in travelling expenses to consider.

It is a situation Sittingbourne could do without, having already vacated their home at Bourne Park earlier this month and agreeing a groundshare with Kent League side Woodstock Sports for next season.

There is also a big change in the Ryman One South, with Combined Counties League runners-up Guernsey being confirmed as competing in the division next season.

It means Kent sides Herne Bay, Whitstable Town, Faversham Town, Ramsgate and Folkestone Invicta will have to make a 400-mile trip for away games on the island, which if scheduled for midweek could pose serious problems for players and managers with work commitments.

It is thought they were placed in the division because their mainland base is in effect Gatwick, from where they fly in and out for games.

The reshuffle also means the FA will be increasing step four in the Ryman League to 24 teams from its current 22.



MOVE: Sittingbourne are no longer at Bourne Park

FOOTBALL

Gills prepare to be reacquainted with some old rivals during life in League One



COVENTRY: Agyemang netted double

GILLINGHAM will face many familiar names when they make the step up to League One next season, with some old faces returning to the Medway towns after more than a decade away.

With the third tier of English football confirmed for 2013/2014, Martin Allen's side will be competing against some former rivals when the season kicks off in August.

There are some big names among the 24 clubs, with the standout tie being Wolves, who were in the Premier League just two years ago, while there are also shorter trips to Leyton Orient, Colchester, Crawley and Stevenage.

Gills fans will be spending a lot of time in the North West and the Midlands, with Crewe, Sheffield United, Tranmere, Preston, Shrewsbury, Carlisle, Oldham, Walsall, Coventry and Peterborough all on the agenda.

The last time Gillingham played Peterborough was in December 1997, when they lost 1-0 in the Football League Trophy at Priestfield.

The season before, they met twice in Division Two, the Gills doing the double courtesy of a 2-1 win at Priestfield in February with an Iffy Onoua double and a 1-0 win at London Road in November, with the big striker netting once more.

It has been nine years since Gillingham played former Premier League duo Coventry City and Sheffield United, who both returned to the Championship the year that the Gills were relegated.

Trinidad and Tobago international Ian Cox proved to be the unlikely hero the last time the Kent side met the Sky Blues, the defender netting twice inside a minute after half-time to secure a 3-1 win after Darren Byfield had put the home side ahead at Priestfield.

The first fixture between the two clubs that season, in September, saw another double as striker Patrick Agyemang fired in twice in the second

half, the Gills coming from two behind to secure a draw at Highfield Road.

Sheffield United represent another tough opponent and a side the Gills have not beaten since their debut in the Championship during season 2000/2001, when they recorded a double over the Blades.

The sides have met eight times since then and none of the games resulted in a win for Gillingham.

The last meeting, in November 2004, was a goalless draw at Bramall Lane, while the first game, in October, resulted in a 3-1 defeat, with the visitors finishing with 10 men and three points, former Gills favourite Paul Shaw hitting a double.

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